



2010 Woman Business Owner of the Year Application

It's time once again to recognize those among ourselves who inspire us and propel entrepreneurship forward. The award for 2010 Woman Business Owner of the Year will be presented at the 2010 Achievement Lunch in late April or early May. Please join us in the campaign to identify and nominate candidates. Act now to capture that first burst of intuition! Who can you nominate? Yourself. A friend. A colleague. The new member you brought to NAWBO a few years ago. A client. Or any NAWBO member whose story recently inspired you.

Award Criteria

- Applicant must be an individual (woman business owner) NAWBO Chicago Area Chapter member in good standing for at least three (3) years.
- Nominee must be recognized as a successful entrepreneur and have actively promoted small business/entrepreneurship.
- Nominee should be noted for outstanding achievement and creativity in entrepreneurship, especially in these challenging economic conditions.
- Nominee should exhibit role model qualities including community service, business acumen, and the ability to overcome obstacles.
- Winner must be able to attend the 2010 Annual Luncheon Gala –scheduled late April or early May at a downtown Chicago hotel.

Application Instructions

Your completed application package should consist of:

- A photograph of nominee, electronic image (.jpg) preferred.
- Answers to the questions listed on the next page, with responses limited to one page or less per question.
- Use “Woman Business Owner of the Year Application” in the subject line of your email submission.

Your completed application package must be submitted to the NAWBO Chapter office no later than Friday, January 29, 2010

Send to:

info@nawbochicago.org

All applications must be sent in Word or PDF format via email

Questions?

Contact the NAWBO Chapter office at 312.224.2605 or info@nawbochicago.org



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Application Questions

1. Basic Information:
Name, Company, Address, Phone, Fax, Email, Percentage of Ownership, Number of Employees, Year Founded/Became Owner, Number of Family Members involved in the business, Type of Entity (Sole Proprietor, Partnership, S Corp or C Corp.)
2. Provide a brief description of nominee's business.
3. What motivated nominee to start business?
4. What obstacles did nominee have to overcome to start or grow her business?"
5. What creative initiatives has nominee taken to make her business successful, especially in the recent challenging economic environment?
6. What qualities does nominee possess that led to her success as a business owner? Describe the most satisfying aspect of ownership.
7. Talk a bit about the growth of nominee's business. You may wish to discuss growth in areas such as revenue, number of employees, increased customer base, increased presence in marketplace, community involvement, innovation, etc.
8. Discuss social responsibility practices or community impact of nominee's business. Include areas such as sustainability and green initiatives, community relations, corporate philanthropy, etc.
9. List past and present involvement in civic, charitable, business and professional organizations, including service on their boards and/or committees. Include any awards/honors nominee has received.
10. Please describe a specific contribution nominee has made to NAWBO or any of the organizations listed above.
11. What are nominee's major achievements as a business owner, community or business leader?
12. Describe why other women business owners might consider nominee a role model.