



2013 SALUTE TO SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS

The Van Wert Area Chamber of Commerce will spotlight businesses built on an independent entrepreneurial spirit that play a vital role in the Van Wert community and economy. To be nominated is an honor and serves as a great tribute to a company's leadership and employees. To formally recognize this significant achievement in a local business, please fill out the following information.

All small business nominees and award recipients will be recognized at the *2013 Salute to Small Business Awards Luncheon on November 15, 11:45-1pm at Willow Bend Country Club.*

SECTION 1: ABOUT THE NOMINEE (Please report Van Wert County data only. Nominated business must have less than 250 employees.)

Name of Company: _____

Address: _____ City: _____, OH ZIP: _____

Contact Name: _____ Title: _____

SECTION 2: SMALL BUSINESS AWARD CATEGORIES

Please check the appropriate category that best represents the nominated business. Please check only one category per nomination form. Please see page 2 for category descriptions.

☐ **SPIRIT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP**
☐ **AGRICULTURE ENTERPRISE**
☐ **CHARITABLE NON-PROFIT**
☐ **GENERATIONS**

☐ **DOWNTOWN CHAMPION**
☐ **WOMAN-OWNED BUSINESS**
☐ **IMPORT/EXPORT EXCELLENCE**

Please provide information on the nominated business that supports consideration for one of the categories above. You may submit a separate document or answer below.

SECTION 3: NOMINATION SUBMITTED BY

Name of Company: _____

Address: _____ City: _____, OH ZIP: _____

Contact Name: _____ Title: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

MAIL, E-MAIL OR FAX NOMINATION INFORMATION NO LATER THAN *OCTOBER 10, 2013*

**Van Wert Area Chamber of Commerce
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E-Mail: chamber@vanwertchamber.com
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2013 SALUTE TO SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

SPIRIT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP:

A substantiated history as an innovative, established business demonstrating initiative, perseverance and profitability. Other considerations include growth in the number of employees, increase in sales, and evidence of contributions by nominee to aid community-oriented projects through the use of time and other resources.

AGRICULTURE ENTERPRISE:

A substantiated history as an established farm/agricultural business that has demonstrated sound business practices and leadership within the agricultural sector based on economic impact, marketing, innovative farm practices, and dollar and time investment in the community.

CHARITABLE NON-PROFIT:

A substantiated history of an established Charitable Non-Profit organization 501(c)(3) with a volunteer Board of Trustees or governing body that has demonstrated sound business practices, innovation and leadership in offering human services within the Van Wert community.

GENERATIONS:

A substantiated history as an established business which has been passed from one generation to another, with growth in the number of employees, increase in sales, including evidence of contributions to the community through the use of time and other resources. Must be locally owned and operated with at least a 15 year track record. Nominees must serve as a majority owner and operator with award presented to the company.

DOWNTOWN CHAMPION:

A substantiated history as an innovative, established Van Wert downtown area business with business growth in the number of employees, increase in sales, and evidence of contributions by nominee to aid community-oriented projects—especially in the downtown area— through the use of time and other resources.

WOMAN-OWNED BUSINESS:

A substantiated history as an established business, growth in the number of employees, increase in sales, and evidence of contributions by nominee to aid community-oriented projects through the use of time and other resources. Must be 50.1% female owned.

EXPORT/IMPORT EXCELLENCE:

A substantiated history as an established business, with increased sales, profits and/or growth of employment, effective export and/or import practices and creative overseas marketing strategies. Will also consider evidence of contributions by nominee to aid community-oriented projects through the use of time and other resources.