

# 21st Annual Awards Gala - 2023 Nomination Form

The Lima/Allen County Chamber of Commerce is holding the 21st Annual Awards Gala on **Tuesday, May 2, 2023**, and we are currently accepting nominations for businesses and individuals in the categories listed below. Please nominate businesses or individuals in as many categories as you would like. However, the same business or individual may not be selected as a finalist or recipient in more than one category.

The goal of the Awards Gala is to recognize those in the business community who have gone above and beyond. Six Chamber awards will be presented on this night. This is an opportunity for business owners in the community to come together to show their support for local business. **Mark your calendars now and plan on joining us for this very special event!**

**Nominated By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Business:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this form to the Chamber no later than Friday, January 13, 2023.**

Return to Julie Klingler by fax - 419.229.0266, mail - 144 S. Main St., Lima, OH 45801, or email - [jklingler@limachamber.com](mailto:jklingler@limachamber.com). Call 419.222.6045 with any questions.

## Small Business of the Year

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominees for the Small Business of the Year Award will be judged according to the following criteria: 1) the business must be independently owned and operated with a substantial history as an established business. The business may be an independently owned franchise or owned by multiple persons; 2) the business must be financially strong and profitable and be able to show a history of growth; 3) the business principal must have demonstrated community involvement and/or made some civic contributions; 4) the number of employees must range from 1 to 150. 5) The business must be independently owned and operated with an operational history of at least eighteen months.

## Non-Profit Agency of the Year

Agency Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Director: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominees for the Non-Profit Agency of the Year Award will be judged according to the following criteria: 1) Agency provides a description of the most important activity of the agency in the past year that benefited the community, how it benefited the community and to whom the activity was directed; 2) Agency is a nonprofit public or private sector agency that provides a service(s) to people in the Lima/Allen County area in an efficient, economic and nondiscriminatory manner; 3) Agency promotes a safe and accessible workplace and service location for employees and clients; 4) Agency must be financially sound and provide annual report (W9); 5) Agency mentors new employees, volunteers, and new board members through adequate training; 6) Agency participates and supports collaborative efforts among Nonprofits and other organizations in the community 7) The number of employees must range from 1 to 150.

## Woman Owned Business of the Year

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominees for the Woman Owned Business of the Year Award will be judged according to the following criteria: 1) The business must be 51% woman owned; 2) The business must be financially strong and profitable and be able to show a history of growth; 3) The business principal or organization must have demonstrated community involvement and/or made some civic contributions; 4) The number of employees must range from 1 to 150. 5.) The business must have an operational history of at least eighteen months.

## Emerging Business of the Year

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

The nominee for the Emerging Business of the Year will be judged according to the following criteria: 1) The business must be independently owned and operated with an operational history of between eighteen months and four years; 2) The business should exemplify a unique business idea, marketing approach, and/or management style that have contributed to its growth and success; 3) The business must establish its transition from a start-up to an emerging business by documenting increased sales volume and/or operational profitability, introduction of unique or innovative products or services, job creation/retention, and other indicators recognized within its industry and community; 4) The business principal must demonstrate community involvement and/or civic contributions. 5) The number of employees must range from 1 to 150.

## Young Leader of the Year

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

The nominee for the Young Leader of the Year will be judged according to the following criteria: 1) Applicant must be between 20 and 40 years of age as of May 3, 2022; 2) Individual must have a minimum of 3 years professional experience within their current field; 3) Has devoted time to improving the quality of life of others through civic and community service; 4) Actively developing leadership skills and demonstrating growth towards future goals.

## ATHENA Award

Agency Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Director: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

This award is presented to one who has attained and personified the highest level of professional excellence in her/his business or profession, has devoted time and energy to the community in a meaningful way, and most especially, has opened doors of leadership opportunity for women. Nominees will be judged according to the following criteria: 1) Assist women in reaching their full leadership potential; 2) Demonstrate excellence, creativity, and initiative in their business or profession; 3) Provide valuable service by devoting time and energy to improve the quality of life for others in the community.