

Libraries Mean Business Award

Purpose:

To recognize a library's contributions to the business community.

Criteria:

Nominees will be recognized for noteworthy service for a program which supports one or more aspects of workforce development, small business support, community development and employment. The following are examples of services that could be included in this program.

- Services to small businesses, which can include but are not limited to how to start a small business, business forms, franchising information, and business plans
- Tools and training to help employees gain technology and other job-related skills
- Web pages with links to resources for businesses and/or job seekers
- Workshops and seminars on topics of interest to business and/or job seekers
- Podcasts, videos, RSS feeds, a wiki or other similar tools on business and job-related topics
- Participation in blogs for small business owners, entrepreneurs and job seekers
- Providing a business and/or job center in the library
- Presentations to local business organizations about the library's business-related services and programs
- Providing paper and electronic copies of local ordinances that affect businesses, e.g. zoning, local census projects, development plans, etc.
- Organizing volunteers to provide assistance to businesses and job seekers
- Facilitating community meetings partnerships and opportunities that bring together government departments, community groups, local businesses, and local leaders to promote economic development
- Serving as a tourist welcome and information center
- Offering adult literacy programs and services for job seekers and for businesses
- Supporting community development efforts through active involvement in the Chamber of Commerce, other local business or economic development organizations and government agencies that support business growth
- Libraries that collaborate with the Small Business Administration to provide services, such as video conferencing

Eligibility: Academic, public, and special libraries are eligible. Nominees can be a single library or part of a library system or consortium. The program must have been conducted within the previous calendar year.

Was the program conducted within the previous calendar year? Yes _____ No _____

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Workforce development	Nominee provided very significant and noteworthy service and support. This may include but is not limited to program or service that impacts the entire community or had a profound impact on workforce development, clearly defined and extremely relevant objectives, extremely positive outcomes or related measures, provided service is a new idea or a unique twist on an old idea, and demonstrated ability to sustain or replicate the service. Testimonials (letters, articles, etc.) provide extremely strong support and evidence of impacts.	[Intentionally left blank]	Nominee provided significant and noteworthy service and support. This may include but is not limited to program or service that impacts some of the community or had a meaningful impact on workforce development, defined and relevant objectives, mostly positive outcomes or related measures, and demonstrated ability to sustain or replicate the service. Testimonials (letters, articles, etc.) provide support and evidence of impacts.	Nominee did not provide significant or noteworthy program or service, or not enough information is provided to determine.

Small business support	Nominee provided very significant and noteworthy service and support. This may include but is not limited to a program or service that impacts the entire community or had a profound impact on small businesses, clearly defined and extremely relevant objectives, extremely positive outcomes or related measures, provided service or support is a new idea or a unique twist on an old idea, and demonstrated ability to sustain or replicate the service. Testimonials (letters, articles, etc.) provide extremely strong support and evidence of impacts.	[Intentionally left blank]	Nominee provided significant and noteworthy service and support. This may include but is not limited to a program or service that impacts some of the community or had a meaningful impact on small businesses, defined and relevant objectives, mostly positive outcomes or related measures, and demonstrated ability to sustain or replicate the service. Testimonials (letters, articles, etc.) provide support and evidence of impacts.	Nominee did not provide significant and noteworthy service or support, or not enough information is provided to determine.
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Community development	<p>Nominee provided very significant and noteworthy service and support. This may include but is not limited to a program or service that impacts the entire community or had a profound impact on community development, clearly defined and extremely relevant objectives, extremely positive outcomes or related measures, provided service or support is a new idea or a unique twist on an old idea, and demonstrated ability to sustain or replicate the service. Testimonials (letters, articles, etc.) provide extremely strong support and evidence of impacts.</p>	[Intentionally left blank]	<p>Nominee provided significant and noteworthy service and support. This may include but is not limited to a program or service that impacts some of the community or had a meaningful impact on community development, defined and relevant objectives, mostly positive outcomes or related measures, and demonstrated ability to sustain or replicate the service. Testimonials (letters, articles, etc.) provide support and evidence of impacts.</p>	<p>Nominee did not provide significant and noteworthy service or support, or not enough information is provided to determine.</p>
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Employment	Nominee provided very significant and noteworthy service and support. This may include but is not limited to a program or service that impacts the entire community or had a profound impact on employment, clearly defined and extremely relevant objectives, extremely positive outcomes or related measures, provided service or support is a new idea or a unique twist on an old idea, and demonstrated ability to sustain or replicate the service. Testimonials (letters, articles, etc.) provide extremely strong support and evidence of impacts.	[Intentionally left blank]	Nominee provided significant and noteworthy service and support. This may include but is not limited to a program or service that impacts some of the community or had a meaningful impact on employment, defined and relevant objectives, mostly positive outcomes or related measures, and demonstrated ability to sustain or replicate the service. Testimonials (letters, articles, etc.) provide support and evidence of impacts.	Nominee did not provide significant and noteworthy service or support, or not enough information is provided to determine.
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