



**THE SAVANNAH AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
2011 SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS**

NOMINATION FORM

Deadline: June 3, 2011

Please check the appropriate award category. If nominating for more than one category please submit a separate form.

____ Small Business of the Year – sponsored by Wells Fargo

____ Entrepreneur of the Year – sponsored by Savannah Morning News

____ Helen V. Head Small Business Advocate of the Year – sponsored by The Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce & The Chatham Commerce Club

Nominee Name _____

Nominee Company _____

Business Type _____ Phone _____ Fax/E-mail _____

Nominated By _____ Phone _____ Fax/E-mail _____

The Awards

The Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to provide special recognition to the small business community by presenting three special awards. We know that small businesses are the backbone of America's economy, creating three-fourths of all new jobs, and accounting for more than one-half of the nation's gross domestic product. We will recognize these small business owners for his or her tireless work and embodiment of the spirit of enterprise. The presentation will take place at the June 28, 2011 banquet at 7:00 pm. at the Savannah Marriott Riverfront immediately following the Business Networking Expo which will take place at 5:00 p.m.

Eligibility

A business must meet the following:

- Employees not to exceed 50
- Sales not to exceed \$7 million
- Member in good standing of the Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce/Visit Savannah

Criteria

Eligible applicants will be judged on the following:

- Financial performance and business history
- Ability to respond to opportunities and challenges
- Community involvement
- Accomplishments
- Vision/mission statement

Nominating Process

Nominations are due by June 3, 2011. Forms may be mailed directly to the Chamber at P.O. Box 1628, Savannah, GA 31402, faxed to (912) 644-6498 or emailed to ssmith@savannahchamber.com. Please direct any questions to Susan Smith at (912) 644-6434. Forms are also available on our website, www.savannahchamber.com.

The Awards

SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Nominated by their peers, this is an annual opportunity for area small businesses to receive recognition and reflect on the years of hard work that have made their business successful. A selection committee who come from a variety of professions and backgrounds select the recipients based upon criteria such as business growth, community involvement and innovative efforts. This award is presented to a company that has achieved success in its business through growth and quality performance as well as active participation in the community. This company has demonstrated creativity and excellence. A candidate must be an owner, partner or a major shareholder of a business in the Savannah area and must be active in the day-to-day management. The conduct of the individual/business shall represent high ethical standards in its business dealings. The individual/business should act as an advocate of his/her trade by participation in trade associations and community activities. The individual should be willing to serve as an ambassador of small, local business owners during the year in which the award is received. A candidate and his/her business must be established for a minimum of three years.

ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR **Sponsored by Savannah Morning News**

Entrepreneurs can transform economies, drive innovation and change communities. This has been proven true year after year. The Entrepreneur Of The Year Award celebrates those who are building and leading successful, growing and dynamic businesses. This award is presented to a person who has started, organized and managed a successful business and has been active in the community. An individual whose creative vision, talent and innovative thinking creates opportunities for growth not just that person's business but for the community. The nominee demonstrates perseverance in the face of adversity and overcoming obstacles, learns from experience, fosters teamwork and builds loyalty. This person also develops and fosters the virtues and skills of civic engagement and social responsibility within their company.

HELEN V. HEAD BUSINESS ADVOCATE **Sponsored by The Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce & The Chatham Commerce Club**

Helen Head was a woman who believed in and supported small business. She was the first recipient of the Chamber's Athena Award for her achievements as a woman in business. She was the chair of the Savannah Area Chamber in 1993 and owned and operated a successful CPA firm and still found time to give back to the community by serving on numerous boards and councils. She was an individual whose creative vision, talents and innovative thinking create opportunities and growth for small business in the community. This award goes to the individual following in Helen's footsteps of dedication to the community, a true advocate for small business in Savannah. A candidate and his/her business must be established for a minimum of three years.

QUESTIONS

Please answer the following information on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Explain the history of sales for this company, including percentage of growth rate over the past three years.
2. This company provides (#) _____ jobs.
3. During the last three years, jobs have increased by _____ percent.
4. In the past, how has the nominee demonstrated the ability to respond to opportunities and challenges?
5. List business accomplishments over the last 3-5 years.
6. List community/business involvement activities.
7. Please state the company's vision/mission statement.
8. Summarize how your endeavors have impacted our community, economy or political environment. Additionally, please include how your work depends on your creativity, vision and leadership.

The nomination must be returned to The Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce, Attn: Susan Smith, P.O. Box 1628, Savannah, GA 31402, Phone: (912) 644-6434, Fax: (912) 644-6498, e-mail: ssmith@savannahchamber.com, Deadline: Friday, June 3, 2011. Information provided is kept strictly confidential.