



## **Nominate and Recognize!**

*Make sure your clients and suppliers are among the honorees.*

The Eastern Minority Supplier Development Council (EMSDC) will be hosting the third annual “**Stellar Awards**” in conjunction with the ROAR Conference. During the conference we will honor the achievements of corporations, minority business enterprises (MBEs), and resource partners during the luncheon. The conference will take place on Thursday, March 8, from 7:30 am - 5:30 pm, at the Wyndham Grand in Pittsburgh, PA. The luncheon is from 11:45 am - 1:15 pm.

We are now seeking nominations in various categories. See the attached list and criteria.

Submitting a nomination is a great way to show your appreciation to a deserving company or individual and help them get exposure. We are also accepting self-nominations. Once we receive your nominations, a package will be sent to the nominees for additional information. Please submit your nominations as soon as possible to give your nominees enough time to collect the information that will be used by the Selection Committee to determine the winner. The deadline for nominations is January 5, 2018. We will only accept nominations from EMSDC Corporate Members, Certified MBEs, and Subscribers.

You may notice that the Corporation of the Year and Supplier of the Year categories are not listed. You will have an opportunity to compete for these titles in the fall of 2018 and be recognized at the “**Choice Awards**” in Philadelphia on December 7.

Thank you in advance for your participation, and I look forward to seeing you at the Conference.

Yours in Business Success,

Valarie J. Cofield  
President/ CEO



Thursday, March 8, 2017 | 11:45 am - 1:15 pm  
The Wyndham Grand, Pittsburgh, PA

## **MBE Awards**

### Forerunner Award

This award recognizes and honors an MBE representative that has been instrumental in growing their company and EMSDC. The winner has been an asset to their company through innovative ideas and also provided their personal time and resources to support the mission and goals of the Council.

Award Criteria: The award is given to an individual that has directly improved performance for their company in the areas of quality of products/services, delivery, competitiveness, and servicing. The winner also contributes time and resources to support EMSDC.

Nominee(s): \_\_\_\_\_

### Partnership Award

This award recognizes and honors a certified minority business enterprise that demonstrates sound business management, sources with other MBEs, and seeks out opportunities to partner, collaborate, and form strategic alliances with other firms in order to enter larger markets and gain a competitive edge.

Award Criteria: The award is given to a certified MBE with a history of partnering with other MBEs to grow capacity, increasing their annual spend with MBEs, and sharing best practices with other minority firms.

Nominee(s): \_\_\_\_\_

### Fastest Growing Company Award

This award recognizes and honors a certified minority business enterprise that demonstrates consistent growth in revenue and employees hired in a three year period.

Award Criteria: The award is given to a certified MBE with a history of growth in terms of revenue and number of employees hired, and a proven track-record of sharing his/her entrepreneurial skills and creativity to help improve the quality of life, and overcome obstacles, in his/her community.

Nominee(s): \_\_\_\_\_

## **Corporate Awards**

### Forerunner Award

This award recognizes and honors a corporate representative that has been instrumental in improving their company and EMSDC. The winner has been an asset to their company's supplier diversity program through innovative ideas and has also provided their personal time and resources to support the mission and goals of the council.

Award Criteria: The award is given to an individual that has directly improved inclusiveness in their company's supply chain. The winner also contributes time and resources to support EMSDC.

Nominee(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Leadership Cornerstone Award

This award recognizes and honors a corporation that is leading the way in support and/or development of MBEs that help to increase their capacity within the supply chain and enhance MBE competitiveness in the marketplace.

Award Criteria: This award is given to a member corporation for their efforts in identifying and developing MBEs through educational/technical programs, mentorships, and financial assistance.

Nominee(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Best Practice Award

This award recognizes and honors a corporation with an established Supplier Diversity Program that disrupts traditional processes to create innovation in the supply chain, drive program improvements, and develop best practices for MBE engagement.

Award Criteria: This award is given to a member corporation for implementing a trendsetting supplier diversity strategy that results in increased numbers/percentages of MBEs in the supply chain, and demonstrates a willingness to help others grow and expand their programs.

Nominee(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Resource Partner Award**

This award recognizes and honors an individual from a community/educational organization dedicated to the growth and development of MBEs and serves as a resource for the EMSDC MBE community.

Award Criteria: This individual has provided time or resources to help promote EMSDC and assisted in the success of MBEs.

Nominee(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Alexander Nichols Lifetime Achievement Award**

This award recognizes and honors an individual whose overall involvement with the EMSDC goes above and beyond membership or certification status, but also whose body of work exemplifies a passion for the advancement of minority businesses.

Award Criteria: This individual has been recognized for the longstanding dedication to the advancement of minority business enterprises through promoting certification of MBEs, participation in organizations or committees that help develop MBEs, and number of years advocating for MBEs.

Nominee(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for your participation.**

Completed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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



Please return the completed form by **January 5, 2018** to  
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