

Grove Area Chamber of Commerce (GACC)

Annual Award Categories

The GACC presents our Chamber Awards annually to recognize outstanding businesses, individuals, and organizations that stand out among their peers and have demonstrated excellence, innovative practices, growth, longevity, and significant contributions to the community and region.

Submit your nominations for these annual awards categories. Nominations will be reviewed by the Awards Selection Committee and scored based on examples and details provided in the nomination, and determined which business best meets the criteria for each of the following categories.

Large Business of the Year

The Large Business of the Year award is given to a GACC business member that supports and encourages the development and promotion of the GACC and its mission. Large businesses are defined as having more than 50 employees. The nomination should reflect a business that contributes significantly to the quality of life within the communities we serve.

Small Business of the Year

The Small Business of the Year award is given to a GACC business member that supports and encourages the development and promotion of the GACC and its mission. Small businesses are defined as having 49 employees or less. The nomination should reflect a business that offers exemplary service or value by providing unique services that enrich or improve the lives of people within the community and lake region.

Emerging Business of the Year

The Emerging Business of the Year award recognizes new and emerging GACC businesses that have been under current ownership less than 3 years and that have had a positive impact in the community through jobs, services, innovation or technology. These are businesses that have established themselves and are on a path to outstanding success. The nomination for this award should reflect a business that has made an impact by investing significant time and energy to the betterment of our communities in the region.

Emerging Young Professional of the Year

The Emerging Young Professional of the Year award recognizes an up-and-coming leader that has exemplified vision, leadership qualities, and engagement for the improvement of the region. The award serves to recognize and honor outstanding achievements as this individual begins their journey in leadership in the Grand Lake region.

Excellence in Education Award

The Excellence in Education award recognizes a community leader that has exemplified vision, leadership qualities, and commitment for the improvement of education. The award serves to recognize and honor outstanding achievements in the field of education and honor those who aspire to make a difference in the future leadership of our communities.

Be A Champion – Impact Award

This prestigious award will be given to a person who represents the very best that Grand Lake has to offer. This nomination should reflect an individual that has an extensive history of service within our communities and who has worked tirelessly to make Grove & Grand Lake a better place to live, work, and visit.

The GACC will present additional annual awards based on recommendations from the committees they represent.

Ambassador of the Year

Board Member of the Year

Volunteer of the Year – Community

Volunteer of the Year - Chamber

Non-Profit Organization of the Year

Grove Area Chamber of Commerce – Award Nomination Form

Name of Nominator: _____

Nominator Contact Email: _____

Nominator Contact Phone Number: _____

Large Business of the Year: _____

Small Business of the Year: _____

Emerging Business of the Year: _____

Emerging Young Professional of the Year: _____

Excellence in Education Award: _____

Be A Champion – Impact Award: _____

Nomination Instructions:

Written recommendations must be submitted with each nomination. You may use a separate sheet of paper. The nominator should highlight why the nominee deserves the award and give specific examples and other relevant information that may aid the selection committee. Businesses must be a Chamber member in good standing to be eligible for awards. Current members are listed on the GACC website (www.groveok.org). Individual nominations for the Be A Champion – Impact Award are not required to be affiliated with a Chamber member.

Award recipients are selected from the submitted nominations by a majority vote of the committee. There will be three finalists for the categories of Large Business of the Year, Small Business of the Year, Emerging Business of the Year, Emerging Young Professional of the Year, and the Excellence in Education Award.

All nominations must be submitted to the GACC by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, June 25, 2025. Award nominations can be sent via email to grovechamberevents@gmail.com, mailed, or personally delivered to the Grove Area Chamber of Commerce office at 311 S. Grand Street, Grove, OK 74344.

The Annual Awards Gala will be held on Thursday, July 17th at the Shangri-La Resort. Social Hour will begin at 6 p.m. with a cash bar. Dinner & Awards will start at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$75 per person. Table sponsorships are available.

For more information, please contact the Grove Area Chamber team at 918-786-9079.