



# 2024 Woman Business Owner of the Year Award Application

**The Business Owner of the Year Award honors a woman business owner whose outstanding business achievement is only outshined by her dedication to promoting small business and entrepreneurship. This award will be presented during lunch at “Women Mean Business®” on April 25.**

## Award Criteria

- Applicant must be an individual (woman business owner) NAWBO Chicago Area Chapter member in good standing for at least 3 years.
- Nominee must be recognized as a successful entrepreneur and have actively promoted small business/entrepreneurship.
- Nominee should be noted for outstanding achievement.
- Nominee should exhibit role model qualities including community service, business acumen and the ability to overcome obstacles.
- Award winner must be able to attend the lunch portion of “Women Mean Business®” on April 25.

**Return completed application package via email to [info@nawbochicago.org](mailto:info@nawbochicago.org). Your package should contain:**

- A headshot of nominee, electronic hi-res, print quality jpg (300 ppi at a print size of approximately 8" x 12").
- Answers to the questions listed below. No more than five (5) pages in total.

## Application Questions

- Basic Information: Name, Company, Phone and Email.
- What motivated the nominee to start her business?
- Did the nominee have to overcome any obstacles to start or grow her business?
- What creative initiatives has the nominee taken to make her business successful?
- What qualities does the nominee possess that has led to her success as a business owner? Describe the most satisfying aspect of ownership.
- What were the nominee's gross revenues for the past three years? Also, explain growth in other areas, such as number of employees, increased customer base, etc.
- List past and present involvement in civic, charitable, business and professional organizations, including service on their boards and/or committees.
- Please describe a specific contribution the nominee has made to any of the organizations.
- What awards/honors has the nominee received?
- What are the nominee's major achievements as a business owner, community or business leader?
- Describe why other women business owners might consider the nominee a role model.

## **Questions For The Nominee – Award Winner’s Answers To Be Published In Program Booklet**

- What does your business do (no more than 40 words)?
- Please answer **two** of the following (no more than 75 words each):
  - What has been your biggest lesson in business?
  - What is the best business tip you can share with other women business owners?
  - What is the biggest lesson you have learned from another female entrepreneur?
  - What advice would you give to other female entrepreneurs?
  - What value have you found in women entrepreneurs supporting one another?

**Your completed application package must be submitted to the NAWBO Chapter office no later than **February 23, 2024**.**

Send to: [info@nawbochicago.org](mailto:info@nawbochicago.org)

All applications must be sent in Word or PDF format via email.

Questions?

Contact the NAWBO Chicago Chapter office at 773.741.4955 or [info@nawbochicago.org](mailto:info@nawbochicago.org).