



ATHENA® Award Selection Criteria

Nomination is completed digitally – this information is to help you prepare for the digital nomination form. **Deadline for nomination is February 28th, 2023.**

The Overview

The ATHENA® Award celebrates the potential of all women(+) as valued members and leaders of the community and recognizes those who support them. The award honors individuals who strive toward the highest levels of professional accomplishment, have devoted time and energy to their community in a meaningful way, and for actively assisting others, particularly women, in realizing their full leadership potential. The ATHENA® Foundation is a nationally recognized organization which recognizes individuals that assist women in reaching their full potential. The Lancaster Chamber has a license to distribute this award.

Selection Criteria and Definition

ATHENA Leadership Award Nominees must meet each of the following three criteria:

- Demonstrate excellence, creativity and initiative in their business or profession
- Provide valuable service to improve the quality of life for others in their community
- Actively assist women in achieving their full leadership potential
- Must be employed by a Chamber member company

1. Assisting Women in Leadership – 30%

Verified indications of assisting women to improve their position in the business arena noted by personal time and energy devoted to mentoring, recommending women for advancement, involvement in women's issues and organizations, and pursuing equity of women in business positions.

2. Professional Excellence – 25%

Demonstrates an understanding of the diverse work environment and how people relate professionally. Respects and embraces the contributions of others. Ability to project a professional image and manner in business activities.

3. Community Service – 20%

Evidence of contribution and involvement in the community, investment of financial and other resources such as time, talent, materials, facilities and equipment, involvement of self and ability to draw others to support community service.

4. Professional Accomplishments – 15%

Current accomplishments evidenced by special recognition, projects and achievements - as applicable to the individual's professional position. Include business-related affiliations, directorships, trusteeships or other designations.

5. Chamber Involvement – 10%

Evidence of contribution of time and talent to the chamber. Support of chamber functions through involvement, leadership, and sponsorship activities. Influencing others, in your organization, to become actively involved in The Chamber.

Nominees should embody The ATHENA Leadership Model, which is comprised of eight core tenets:

1. *Authentic Self*: Understanding who you are – your values, beliefs and thoughts. Honoring your uniqueness. Accepting personal responsibility for your actions.
2. *Celebration & Joy*: Appreciating and acknowledging your accomplishments. Looking forward to your life with a sense of hope and purpose.
3. *Collaboration*: Reaching out beyond what you can achieve on your own. Working in unison with others, while celebrating diverse points of view, ideas and actions.
4. *Courageous Acts*: Standing up and standing firm in the face of fear. Taking risks to speak the truth or challenge the way things have always been done.
5. *Fierce Advocacy*: Supporting and acting on your passion for people, causes or ideas. Creating an unstoppable force for the greater good.
6. *Giving Back*: Serving the greater good. Committing to help your personal community of family, friends, and peers as well as the global village at large.
7. *Learning*: Challenging yourself to listen and be open to what is new and unfamiliar. Expanding and developing your knowledge, skills and experiences. Teaching others.
8. *Relationships*: Connecting with and embracing others. Appreciating the gifts and talents of different people in your life.

Questions? Contact Sandi Thompson, sthompson@lancasterchamber.com.