

ATHENA® Award

Selection Criteria & Nomination Form Content

Nomination is completed digitally – this information is to help you prepare for the digital nomination form. **The deadline for your nomination is March 2nd, 2026.**

The Overview

The ATHENA® Award celebrates the potential of all women as valued leaders and recognizes those who champion their success. This prestigious award honors individuals who exemplify professional excellence, dedicate their time and energy to strengthening the community, and actively support others—particularly women—in reaching their full leadership potential.

The ATHENA® Foundation is an internationally recognized organization whose vision of developing diverse, transformative leaders worldwide is rooted in celebrating the change-makers and trailblazers who open doors of leadership & opportunity for women in communities across the globe. The Lancaster Chamber has a license to distribute the ATHENA® Award

The ATHENA® Award is presented by the Lancaster Chamber to an individual or organization who demonstrates the qualities embodied in the ATHENA Leadership Model and who:

- Has achieved the highest level of professional excellence, creativity and initiative in their business or profession
- Contributes time, energy, and valuable service to improve the quality of life for others in the community.
- Actively assists others, particularly women, in realizing their full leadership potential.

Nominees must be employed by a Lancaster Chamber member company at the time the award is distributed. Only fully completed nominations will be considered to proceed through the awards process.

Contact information needed for the online nomination form:

Nominator Contact Information:

Name, Company, Title, Business Phone, E-mail Address, Address, City, State, Zip

Nominee's Contact Information (Professional):

Name, Company, Title, Business Phone, Email Address; Address, City, State, Zip

Required questions for the online nomination form:

Instructions for Nominators: Please provide thorough and thoughtful responses to each main question. The bullet points under each question are meant to guide your response by highlighting key elements to consider.



You do not need to answer every bullet point, but incorporating relevant details will help demonstrate the nominee's impact and qualifications.

Excellence in Profession: *How has the nominee demonstrated excellence, creativity, and initiative in their business or profession?*

- Describe the nominee's professional achievements, including notable career milestones, leadership roles, or industry recognition.
- How have they shown creativity or innovation in their field? Provide specific projects, initiatives, or solutions they have led.
- In what ways has the nominee demonstrated initiative in their profession? Have they introduced new ideas, expanded their business, or contributed to significant industry advancements?
- How does their work set them apart as a leader in their profession?

Community Impact

How has the nominee provided valuable service to improve the quality of life for others in the community?

- What organizations, causes, or community initiatives have the nominee been actively involved with? Provide specific roles and contributions.
- How have they demonstrated a long-term commitment to community service, and what measurable impact have they made?
- Have they initiated or led any programs that have directly benefited individuals or groups in Lancaster County?
- Share any awards, recognitions, or testimonials that highlight their impact on the community.

Advancing Women in Leadership

How has the nominee actively assisted women in achieving their full leadership potential?

- Describe how the nominee has mentored, coached, or supported women in their personal and professional growth.
- Have they established or participated in programs, initiatives, or networks that foster leadership development for women?
- Provide examples of how their efforts have directly impacted the careers or lives of women they have supported.
- Have they been involved in advocacy, policy efforts, or organizational changes that create more opportunities for women in leadership?

Questions? Contact Molly Crouser at mcrouser@lancasterchamber.com.