

## Annual Gala Business Award Nomination Criteria

### Small Business of the Year:

The Chamber's mission statement is: "helping small businesses grow", and this award recognizes a business that has done just that. The company size must be under 25 employees and been in business for over 3 years. Their local generosity footprint should be significant to non-profits and/or other local organizations through time, talent or treasure. This company may be a locally- owned franchise of a larger company and should have seen steady growth over the last few years. This could be measured financially, service/product expansion or increased employees. Their company brand should be recognizable in the community. There should also be a value of education and mentoring of clients, new employees and the public in their field of expertise.

Former Award Winners include:

ReTouch (2013)  
Moss Printing (2012)  
Casey's Auto Repair (2011)  
RJ's Bob-Be-Que Shack (2010)

### Corporate Business of the Year:

A Corporate Business is defined as one employing more than 25 people full-time. With a wide set of resources, this member should have used them wisely to benefit the local community. This could include time, talent or treasure. As a larger company, their brand should be well-known and seen as a trusted and valuable organization that is beneficial to our area. It is important that the culture of the Corporate Business of the Year encourages education, generosity, creativity and growth.

Former Award Winners include:

Overland Park Marriott (2013)  
Johnson County Community College (2012)  
KCP&L (2011)  
Mainstreet Credit Union (2010)

### New Business of the Year:

This company's size does not matter, but they can only have been in business/current ownership for the previous 3 years. They must have seen significant growth as measured by either financial gains, service/product expansion, increased employees or brand recognition in the community. Within their short window of time, their willingness to engage in the community, with clients and other professionals has been noticed. While this company may be new to the area, their goals are to have deep roots and a long-lasting influence in our region.

Former Award Winners include:

PV Post (2013)  
Sully's Pub (2012)  
hr-haven, inc, (2011)  
Planet Sub (2010)

### Volunteer of the Year:

This person exhibits a love for the NEJC Chamber, their work and their community. They have served on at least one Chamber committee or been influential in another event. It is their passion for serving that draws others to not only them, but the Chamber itself. Having them as a member and volunteer is valuable to the others around them and the Chamber. They understand the mission statement of "helping small businesses grow" and see to it that they are the NEJC Chamber's advocate throughout their many networks. The NEJC Chamber just wouldn't be the same without this generous and hard working individual.

Former Award Winners include:

Chief Rex Taylor (2013)  
Cathy Casey, Casey's Auto Repair (2012)  
Jeff Herman, American Companion Care (2011)  
Paul Ridgway, American Family Insurance (2010)