

The Black Business Association of Memphis (BBA) invites you to join us for the 23rd Annual BENNY Awards Dinner & Gala on Thursday, February 28, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn University of Memphis. B-E-N-N-Y is an acronym for "Black Entrepreneurship Networking Needs You." Our objective is to promote the creation, expansion and development of black, minority and woman-owned businesses through networking, procurement opportunities, training, mentoring and information sharing. During the 2009 event (black-tie optional), we will recognize outstanding individuals, M/WBEs and corporate supporters for their contributions and achievements in 12 award categories, including Outstanding Business of the Year. Tickets are \$100 each/\$1000 for a table of ten. Please contact BBA at 526-9300 for more details!

Please nominate a business. A nomination form is below!

The 23rd ANNUAL BENNY AWARDS DINNER & GALA
Saturday February 28, 2009 – University of Memphis Holiday Inn

2009 BENNY AWARD NOMINATION FORM

For its 2009 event, the **Black Business Association of Memphis** is looking for outstanding service and retail businesses, corporations and business professionals who have reached new heights, provided exemplary service, business opportunities, or leadership to further the vision of minority entrepreneurship, empowerment, business development or community service.

Nominations are due at the BBA Office at 555 Beale Street (38103) no later than 5 p.m. on February 25th, 2009.

Nominations can be hand-delivered or sent by mail or by faxed to (901) 525-2357, or e-mailed to Roby Williams at robyswilliams@hotmail.com.

Award Categories & Descriptions:

Community Involvement Award	Corporate Involvement
Award	
Outstanding Business Purchasing Business Award	Outstanding Woman-Owned
Outstanding Business Facility Award	Outstanding Professional Services
Award	
Outstanding Service Provider Award	Outstanding Business Professional
Outstanding Youth Entrepreneur Year Award	Outstanding New Business of the

Outstanding Business of the Year Award

1. **Community Involvement Award** recognizes a BBA member/business for contributions to community-oriented projects, including an ongoing or special program, event or initiative.
2. **Corporate Involvement Award** recognizes a business or corporation for significant contributions to the involvement, empowerment, and enrichment of minority and women owned businesses in the Memphis area.
3. **Outstanding Business Purchasing Award** recognizes a governmental or non-governmental purchasing department that demonstrates outstanding commitment to promote, encourage and assist in the growth and development of minority and women owned businesses.
4. **Outstanding Business Development Award** recognizes a corporation or organization for outstanding achievement in highest dollar volume or increased revenue in contracting with minority vendors or for outstanding accomplishments in business, or economic, development programs and advocacy that resulted in significant outcomes.
5. **Outstanding Woman-Owned Business Award** recognizes a woman-owned business that has demonstrated outstanding profitability, employee growth, use of technology, professional leadership, customer service, and community involvement.
6. **Outstanding Business Facility Award** recognizes a BBA member for excellence in interior design of their store, office, or plant facility; exterior grounds or signage; or virtual website.
7. **Outstanding Professional Service Award** recognizes a professional service business (e.g., attorneys, consultants, healthcare professionals, insurance agents, realtors, etc.) for outstanding achievement in profitability, growth, leadership and professional development, customer service, and community involvement.
8. **Outstanding Service Provider Award** recognizes a business in a service industry for outstanding profitability, employee and customer growth, use of technology, professional leadership, customer service, and community involvement.

9. **Outstanding Business Professional Award** honors an individual who has demonstrated a commitment to excellence and outstanding professional achievements and personal standards and who serves as a role model for others.
10. **Outstanding Business of the Year Award** recognizes a retail or service business for overall excellence and outstanding achievements in all aspects of business.
11. **Outstanding New Business of the Year Award** recognizes a new retail, service or professional services business (of three years or less) which has established itself as a force in the business arena, in such areas as sales and marketing, innovation, and initiative, and etc.
12. **Youth Entrepreneurial Award** recognizes a young entrepreneur, between the ages of 12 and 21, for outstanding achievements in the profit or nonprofit sector.

Award Category of Nomination:

Nominee:

Key Contact:

Position:

Company Name:

Primary

Industry/Business

Address: _____ **City/State:**

Zip: _____

Phone: _____ **Fax:**

Email: _____

Year Founded: _____ **Years in Business:** _____

Number of Employees: Full-Time- _____ **Part-Time-** _____

Estimated Gross Revenue for 2007:

____ Under \$100,000 ____ \$100,000-\$499,999 ____ \$500,000-\$999,999

____ \$1,000,000-\$4,999,999 ____ \$5,000,000-\$9,999,999

____ \$10,000,000-\$25,000,000 ____ \$25,000,000+

Reason for Nomination: Tell why you believe this company or individual is deserving of special recognition. Please include specific examples (Use a separate sheet if desired):
