

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE APRIL 24, 2023

CONTACT: Ann Deasy, Director of Programs and Events 480.355.2712 adeasy@scottsdalechamber.com

Applications Now Being Accepted for the 37th Annual Sterling Awards

Celebrating business excellence, innovation, and community stewardship!

Scottsdale, Ariz. (April 24, 2023) – Applications are now being accepted for the 37th annual Sterling Awards ceremony to be held November 9, 2023, at the Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts. The deadline for entries is Thursday, July 20. Applications can be downloaded and submitted at <u>scottsdalechamber.com</u>. Current members in good standing of the Scottsdale Chamber may apply. Find more about becoming a member of the Chamber at <u>scottsdalechamber.com</u> or call 480.355.2700.

For 37 years the Sterling Awards has embodied the spirit of our organization by celebrating the people and organizations who have demonstrated excellence, innovation, and community stewardship, making Scottsdale one of the best cities to live in our nation.

Over the years we have honored our city's best corporate neighbors and brightest rising stars. Celebrating its 37th incredible year, the Sterling Awards recognize winners in four categories - Micro Business, Small Business, Big Business & Non-Profit. A brief overview of each award category follows.

- The Sterling Award for **Micro Business** recognizes an entrepreneurship or emerging business exhibiting success through innovation, creativity, and collaboration. (1-10 Employees)
- The Sterling Award for **Small Business** recognizes a company demonstrating success through innovation and professionalism, while contributing to the community. (11-75 employees)
- The Sterling Award for **Big Business** recognizes significant contributions to quality of life and the economic fabric of the community. (76 + Employees)
- The Sterling Award for **Non-Profits** recognizes the social, cultural, educational, and economic impact of an organization on its constituents and/or the broader community.

The 2022 Honorees for the coveted Sterling Award were:

- Micro Business (presented by <u>The Scottsdale Chamber</u>) <u>Be A Legend</u>, Inc. (Also recognized in the Micro Business category was <u>Scottsdale Center for Aquatic Safety</u>.)
- Small Business (presented by <u>COX Business</u>) <u>DC Ranch Community Council</u> (Also recognized in the Small Business category were <u>AAA Cooling Specialists</u> and <u>Protecht, Inc.</u>)
- Big Business (presented by <u>Nationwide Insurance</u>) <u>Scottsdale Community College</u> (Also recognized in the Big Business category were <u>Octane Raceway/Mavrix</u> and <u>Red Mountain Weight Loss</u>.)
- Non-Profit (presented by <u>APS</u>) <u>McDowell Sonoran Conservancy</u> (Also recognized in the non-profit category were <u>Hope</u> <u>Women's Center</u> and <u>Scottsdale Arts</u>.)

You can view videos for previous year's honorees and finalists at <u>https://www.youtube.com/ScottsdaleChamber</u>.

About the Sterling Awards

Celebrating 37 years of business excellence, the Sterling Awards are among the most coveted business awards in the Valley, with a rigorous application, judging and selection process. Four teams of judges each conduct an initial review of all applications and narrow the field to three finalists in each category. Once the finalists are identified, the judging teams visit those companies to conduct a personal interview and get a behind-the-scenes look at the operations. Each judge then independently casts a set of points for the finalists based on their embodiment of the award criteria. The points are tallied, and the results remain secret until the day of the event. One of the highlights of the Sterling Awards ceremony is

the highly anticipated video presentation of each of the finalists, produced by <u>Moorhouse Creative</u>. All members in good standing of the Scottsdale Area Chamber of Commerce are eligible to apply.

About the Scottsdale Area Chamber of Commerce

The Scottsdale Area Chamber of Commerce is the largest business organization in Scottsdale providing advocacy, education, networking, leadership development and exposure opportunities to our member businesses. The Chamber actively works to maintain Scottsdale's high quality of life and create an environment where business innovation, excellence and entrepreneurship can thrive. Serving ALL of Scottsdale since 1947. For more information or to learn how to become a member visit <u>scottsdalechamber.com</u> or call 480.355.2700.

###