



## LEON S. PETERS AWARD

Leon S. Peters was respected as a businessman, civic leader and philanthropist who lived and worked according to the highest ethical standards. He cherished his community and considered its well-being his personal responsibility.

Peters gave back to his community in many ways, serving in leadership capacities and donating millions of dollars to a variety of causes through the Leon S. Peters Foundation, founded and funded by Leon and his wife Alice. He died in 1983, leaving a legacy of business success, public service, private philanthropy and an ethical leadership model that few can emulate.

The Leon S. Peters Award is awarded annually to an individual business leader who emulates Leon S. Peters' legacy of business success, public service, private philanthropy, and ethical leadership style.

### NOMINATION PERIOD:

**Monday, November 27, 2023-Tuesday, January 2, 2024**

### 2024 LEON S. PETERS NOMINATION FORM

### PAST HONOREES:

2023	Sally Caglia	2009	Lou Herwaldt	1996	Richard Johanson
2022	Tom Richards	2008	Bill Jones	1995	James Hallowell
2021	Vinci Ricchiuti	2007	Sidney Cox	1994	Lou Gentile
2020	Karen Musson	2006	Bud Richter	1993	Earl Smittcamp
2019	Matty Matoian	2005	O. James Woodward III	1992	Helen Smades
2018	Jim Pardini	2004	Samuel Reeves	1991	William Lyles
2017	Bill Smittcamp	2003	Octavia Diener	1990	Martin Nelsen
2016	Stan Oken	2002	Robert Oliver	1989	Joe Levy
2015	Ray Steele Jr.	2001	Frederick Ruiz	1988	Frank Caglia
2014	Richard Caglia	2000	Anne Speake	1987	B. Franklin Knapp
2013	John E. Horstmann	1999	Larry A. Shehadey	1986	James B. Mayer
2012	Dr. Peter Mehas	1998	Claude Laval III	1985	Robert Duncan
2011	Pete Peters	1997	Robert Carter	1984	Lewis B. Eaton

To promote the success of the regional business community through effective advocacy, education and relationship building.



## **HAROLD ZINKIN ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Harold Zinkin Entrepreneur of the Year Award is presented to an outstanding individual from the Central Valley who has best demonstrated exceptional vision, innovation and leadership in the establishment and development of an owner-led business. The judges will be looking for clear identification of a market opportunity, an innovative product, an innovative approach, the ability to market the product beyond the valley, and evidence of strong financial performance in terms of sales and profit growth.

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## **HAROLD ZINKIN ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR** **NOMINATION FORM**

### **PAST HONOREES**

2023	Lawrence Clark	2014	I LOVE to CREATE
2022	Darden Architects	2013	Granville Homes
2021	Payroll People	2012	Electronic Recyclers International
2020	Lyles Diversified, Inc.	2011	Pollstar
2019	Milano Restaurants International	2010	No evidence of Award
2018	Producers Dairy	2009	No evidence of Award
2017	La Tapatia Tortilleria	2008	Pappy's Fine Foods
2016	Valley Lahvosh	2007	Valley Yellow Pages
2015	Patrick James		

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## **RISING STAR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Rising Star of the Year Award goes to an outstanding business or individual from the Central Valley that has been in business for 7 years or less (from date on business license) and is located or headquartered in Fresno County. The judges will be looking for clear identification of a business that exhibits an innovative product, an innovative approach, the ability to market the product beyond the valley, and evidence that this business is helping to develop our region's local economy and support some aspect of the community.

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**RISING STAR OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FORM**

## **PAST HONOREES**

- 2023 Mike Oz
- 2022 Windsong Productions
- 2021 California Health Sciences University
- 2020 Ampersand Ice Cream
- 2019 Lanna Coffee Co.
- 2017 Bitwise Industries
- 2015 Deli Delicious
- 2014 Integrated Prescription Management
- 2013 Yosemite Ranch
- 2012 P De Q
- 2011 Lotpath, Inc.
- 2008 Band of Neighbors L.L.C
- 2007 Greg Smith of Clickco, Inc

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## **COMMUNITY CHAMPION OF THE YEAR AWARD 2023**

The Community Champion Award is given to an outstanding business from the Central Valley that has been in business for 7 years or more (from date on business license) and is located or headquartered in Fresno County. Business must show devotion of time and energy to the local community in a meaningful way that goes beyond average civic duty. Furthermore, the business must advocate for continued community development, making it a better place to live and do business for their neighbors.

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**COMMUNITY CHAMPION OF THE YEAR**  
**NOMINATION FORM**

### **PAST HONOREES**

2023 Bruce Batti  
2022 Kotman Technology  
2020 Tioga Sequoia Brewing Co.  
2018 Gazebo Gardens

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## **STUDENT ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR AWARD 2023**

The Student Entrepreneur Award recognizes an outstanding student from the Central Valley who has best demonstrated exceptional vision, innovation and leadership in the establishment and development of an owner-led business. The judges will be looking for clear identification of a market opportunity, an innovative product, and an innovative approach.

### **NOMINATION PERIOD:**

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## **STUDENT ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR** **NOMINATION FORM**

### **PAST HONOREES**

2023	Levral (Justin Levine)	2011	Simple Solar Cleaning Systems
2022	Get Served Transportation (Melvin Velasquez)	2016	Zola Apparel
2021	Humble Hemp (Alicia Porras)	2015	Poppy's Jam
2020	Next-Gen Escape (Calvin Kammer)	2014	Cassie's Cake Pops
2019	Tony's Coconut Fusion (Gladys Sanchez)	2013	Trinity Revival
2018	Sparkle Ties	2012	Fernando's Mobile Bicycle Service
2017	The Painted Press (Natalie Fugere)	2011	Vernave Medrano
2017	Alleviate (Danhya Jimenez)	2008	Stephanie Lo
2016	Date in a Crate	2008	HealthSitter.com (Alastair G. Macleod )
2015	Broadway Media Distribution	2007	Stephanie Reilly (POParazzi)
2014	Roetography	2007	Melinda Posthumus of Dede's Décor
2013	Facciani Photography		
2012	Pronovost Technologies Corporation		

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