



2025 Annual Business and Community Awards Categories and Criteria

These Awards recognize significant contributions by individuals and/or organizations who have consistently demonstrated excellence in their endeavors, inspired creativity, and invested significantly in our community. Descriptions of each of the categories for nominations are below.

The San Ramon Chamber accepts nominations in the following categories:

- **Citizen of the Year**
- **Business Person or Business of the Year**
- **Community Educator of the Year**
- **Employee of the Year**
- **“Green” Company/Individual of the Year**
- **Non-Profit of the Year**

- Educator of the Year – Nominated by the San Ramon Valley Unified School District
- Ambassador of the Year – Nominated by the San Ramon Chamber Ambassadors
- Teen Citizen of the Year – Nominated by the San Ramon Teen Council

Citizen of the Year:

- ❖ Recognizes an individual who exemplifies the model of an ideal citizen--innovative, creative, professional, involved, and committed.
- ❖ They have made a significant contribution to education, arts, community service and the general welfare of the community, because of their involvement or financial support.
- ❖ This person promotes teamwork, common vision and established high standards of personal excellence.
- ❖ The Citizen of the Year could be honored for public service, volunteer work, or activities done in an advisory capacity, on behalf of the community. Elected officials are not eligible to be nominated.
- ❖ Must be a San Ramon resident of no less than three years.

Business Person or Business of the Year:

- ❖ Recognizes the significant contributions of an individual or business to the economic vitality of the San Ramon business community.
- ❖ This person or business serves as a role model for other businesses or business people. They share resources, provide counsel to others, and have an established reputation for being ethical.
- ❖ Must own or have played a management role in an established enterprise.
- ❖ They are innovative, creative and professional, and have demonstrated strong leadership within their business, as well as in the broader community.
- ❖ Must be a member of the San Ramon Chamber of Commerce.

Community Educator of the Year: *(New Category for 2025)*

Note: The traditional “Educator of the Year” (K thru 12) candidate is nominated by the San Ramon Valley Unified School District.

- ❖ This Award recognizes an individual or organization who has made significant personal or professional contributions in higher education and/or in the general community, to improve the overall well-being of their students in the Tri-Valley area.
- ❖ Nominees could include private schools, tutoring centers, college level organizations, non-profit educational activities, work force development groups, or organizations with a community education program.
- ❖ The Nominee has been innovative, creative and professional, and has made a significant impact in the community as a leader, educator, or mentor.

Employee of the Year:

- ❖ Recognizes personal contributions made by an individual employee of a business or enterprise, in the public or private sector.
- ❖ They are an outstanding employee, who goes above and beyond expectations, demonstrating excellence in their work.
- ❖ They increased efficiencies and/or established new and innovative programs within their organization.
- ❖ The individual selected will embody the concept of giving within their respective organization and/or to the greater community, with the support from their employer.
- ❖ Must be an employee of a member of the San Ramon Chamber of Commerce.

“Green” Company / Individual of the Year

- ❖ Recognizes a business or person who has demonstrated a significant commitment to earth-friendly practices in their daily activities in operations.
- ❖ Serves as a model of environmental sustainability, social responsibility and fiscal prudence.
- ❖ Seeks to meet all legal environmental regulations and go beyond basic compliance, and is recognized as an environmental leader.
- ❖ Must be a member, or an employee of a member, of the San Ramon Chamber of Commerce.

Non-Profit Organization of the Year: *(New Category for 2025)*

- ❖ Recognizes innovation, collaboration, and community impact, in non-profit activities focused within the Tri-Valley area.
- ❖ Consistently promotes excellence in their chosen area of endeavor, with strong leadership and execution that creates a positive and significant impact in our community.
- ❖ Exemplifies responsible and effective use of philanthropic resources.
- ❖ May work “behind the scenes” in improving the lives of individuals within our community.
- ❖ Must be a member of the San Ramon Chamber of Commerce.