ICEA will accept nominations for the Annual Excellence Awards through May 10th.

This is a great opportunity for your chamber to garner statewide recognition for the hard work that staff accomplished on specific new projects throughout the past year.

Chambers are divided into the following categories for judging:

0-400 members

401-700 members

701+ members

Upon reviewing, all applicants scoring above 90% will receive an Excellence Award.

Chambers may enter multiple entries.

Deadline —May 10th.

E-mail entry link with this completed form to info@iceaonline.com.

Mail a non-refundable check payable to ICEA for \$25 per entry to:

ICEA, P.O. Box 377, Hanover IN 47243.

Questions? Please call the ICEA office at 812-871-3000.



## **Excellence in Innovation Awards**

About the award: The Annual Excellence Awards will recognize innovative new projects from your chamber this past year. Chambers may submit multiple nominations for various projects, however each nomination must showcase something new offered by your chamber during this past year. This award recognizes excellence in innovative new ideas. Complete a separate form for each entry.

E-mail your entry with this completed form to info@iceaonline.com prior to May 10th. Each entry submitted for review will be charged a \$25 non-refundable fee. Please mail this review payment payable to ICEA to: P.O. Box 377 Hanover IN 47243. An invoice will also be sent for you to pay with debit/credit card.

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/hat are you submitting for?	
ontact:	
elephone:	
-Mail:	

Complete a duplicate entry for more than one entry. Please circle below the size of your chamber:

- 0—400 members
- 401- 700 members
- 701 + members

Forward e-mail with your submission attached to info@iceaonline.com no later than May 10th.

## **Connect Bloomington**

In an innovative stride towards bridging the gap between digital convenience and the tangible impact of print, the Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce launched "Connect Bloomington," an annual publication designed to showcase the vibrancy and impact of its members on the community. Unlike anything available in Bloomington, this initiative merges the comprehensive utility of a business directory with the engaging appeal of a magazine, creating a unique resource that highlights community projects, initiatives, and the stories of leaders making a difference. Developed in collaboration with PSP Group, the project introduces a novel approach to community engagement, integrating advertising opportunities that have already garnered significant financial support, as evidenced by \$52,145.00 in ad sales.

The reception to "Connect Bloomington" has been overwhelmingly positive, with 5,000 print copies distributed and significant digital engagement, including 163 website views in just one month, with no advertising initiatives towards this. This success has not only filled a crucial gap in the Chamber's offerings but also set a new standard for how business communities can connect in a meaningful way. Encouraged by the feedback, the Chamber has solidified its commitment to innovation by entering into a three-issue contract with PSP Group, ensuring that "Connect Bloomington" will continue to be a cornerstone of the Chamber's outreach in 2025, 2026, and 2027.

"Connect Bloomington" exemplifies the Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce's dedication to innovation, serving as a pioneering model that enhances business visibility, fosters community engagement, and strengthens the local economic ecosystem. This project is a testament to the power of creative collaboration and visionary thinking in meeting the evolving needs of businesses and communities alike.

## **Supporting Links:**

- Connect Bloomington Webpage: https://www.chamberbloomington.org/connectbloomington.html
- Connect Bloomington Online Link: http://digital.mypspgroup.com/publication/?m=71487&i=816085&p=1&ver=html5