

25 Under 25 Selects Fresh Approach Cleaning Professionals LLC for 2019 Class of Honorees

Fresh Approach Cleaning Professionals LLC has just been recognized as one of Kansas City's best small businesses. It's one of the winners of the 2019 25 Under 25 Awards.

Hosted by Thinking Bigger Business Media, the awards are presented to 25 local businesses with fewer than 25 employees. Each winner has demonstrated financial strength, the ability to overcome adversity and challenges, a commitment to the community and a powerful company vision.

"Small businesses are a powerful, but often overlooked force in Kansas City," said Katie Bean, President of Thinking Bigger Business Media.

"Together, these companies employ thousands upon thousands of people, deliver innovative products and services, and help support our government, schools, nonprofits and other public resources. Of course, most of our winners are too humble and too busy to brag about their contributions. But, it's a story that needs to be told. The 25 Under 25 Awards are proud to celebrate the important service of small businesses."

An independent panel of judges consisting of area business leaders chooses the winning companies. A complete list of winners can be found at www.25under25.com.

This is the 18th year for 25 Under 25. This year's honorees will be recognized during the annual 25 Under 25 Gala on Saturday, Feb. 23, 2019 at the Downtown Marriott's Muehlebach Hotel.

Tickets for the gala will go on sale December 17 at www.25under25.com.



ANNOUNCING THE CLASS OF 2019

A new cohort of outstanding Kansas City-area small businesses has been selected as the 2019 class of 25 Under 25 Small Business Award honorees.

The newly selected companies embody this year's event theme, "Go Places. Think Bigger." Some are growing and moving into new, larger headquarters. One honoree, Mi Rancho Tequila, just signed an international distribution agreement.

The cohort includes businesses all over the KC metro, from Tonganoxie to Blue Springs.

An independent panel of judges selected the honorees for Thinking Bigger Business Media's 18th annual award program. The companies must be Kansas City-area for-profit businesses that have been in operation for at least three years and have fewer than 25 full-time (or full-time equivalent) employees.

The award recognizes

small-but-mighty businesses, which are critical to the economy: 89 percent of U.S. businesses have 20 or fewer employees, according to 2016 U.S. Census data.

For this award, companies are judged on financial stability, ability to overcome adversity and challenges, community involvement, distinguishing or defining characteristics, and company vision.

Winners will be recognized at a black-tie dinner and gala Feb. 23 at the Kansas City Marriott Downtown Muehlebach Tower. Tickets are on sale now, and prices will increase Jan. 1.

For tickets and other information about the gala and awards, visit 25under25.com.

2018 Winners

Participating local businesses:

- » Advantage Pressure Pro
- » Bulldog
- » Chief of Staff

- » Digital Maelstrom
- » e2E
- » Fresh Approach
- » HMC Performance Coatings
- » IntegriShield
- » KC Wine Company
- » Love Letters
- » Mi Rancho Tequila
- » Midwest Comfort Homes
- » Moxi Events
- » MSP Consulting
- » My Child Advocate
- » OneHQ
- » Otto Service
- » Porter Teleo
- » ReDesign KC
- » Shamerrific Shine
- » Smith Mohlman
- » Taxes Plus
- » Tea-Biotics
- » The Running Well Store
- » Umzuzu

AlphaGraphics Kansas City

AlphaGraphics Kansas City (Class of 2016) attained national certification as a Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) from the Women's Business Development Center-Midwest, a regional certifying partner of the Women's Business Enterprise National Council. The printing and marketing company, based in the Crossroads Arts District, also is recognized as a WBE and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise by Kansas City, Mo.

Travols

Travols (Class of 2010) earned a 2018 When Work Works Award for exemplary workplace practices. The Kansas City business is the only company in Missouri to receive the honor this year.

Travols focuses on economic development for American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian communities.

The award recognizes employers of all sizes across the country that excel at offering a variety of top-rated employee initiatives such as work-life fit policies, flexible scheduling and transition to parenthood programs. The award goes beyond work-life programs and includes initiatives that address the additional evidence-based aspects of effective workplaces, such as opportunities for learning, job autonomy and a culture of respect and trust.

Veracity

Veracity (Class of 2011) closed out 2018 strong.

In October, the company opened a new two-story headquarters in downtown Overland Park. The space, designed by Clockwork Architecture, includes a variety of workspace areas to fit various work styles.

Also in October, the tech consulting firm earned the Minority-Owned Business Award from the Kansas Department of Commerce. It is woman-, minority- and LGBT-owned.

In response to client demand – and to leverage the expertise of the Veracity team – the company has also added new service lines to its offerings, including emerging technologies like blockchain, artificial intelligence, machine learning and robotic processing automation. The company is now a member of the Government Blockchain Association (GBA), and CTO Mike Talbot serves as president of the Overland Park chapter of GBA. ■