



UEDA Awards of Excellence Informational Webinar



UNIVERSITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

About UEDA

- Leading national association for university-based economic development professionals
- Provides value through news & information, resources, educational programming, and best practice sharing
- Ecosystem building through engagement with federal agencies, innovation partners and professional networks
- Interested in becoming a member? Visit www.UniversityEDA.org

Purpose of Today's Webinar

To help applicants prepare and formulate their awards submission, this webinar will:

- Highlight the benefits of applying for an award
- Review the program's timeline
- Explain the Awards process:
 - Eligibility requirements
 - Categories
 - Judging criteria
- Provide insight from previous Awards of Excellence winners

Why Apply?

Finalists and Winners of the program can anticipate that their project and/or initiative can see an increased:

- Visibility and recognition from professional and community networks
- Validation and reputation of its efforts and impact
- Competitiveness for grants, funding, or partnership from high-profile organizations

Area-Emprendedora (Area-E), A Small Business Incubator and Accelerator Program – 2023 Winner – Innovation – University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez



Timeline

March 25

Nominations Window Open

July 1

Nomination Deadline

August 14

Finalist Notification

August 26

Finalist Webinar

October 6 – 8

UEDA Summit &
Finalist Presentations

Eligibility

- The Awards of Excellence Program has an Open Nominations Format: Non-UEDA members may nominate one project or initiative for a \$200 application fee per entry. UEDA members may nominate multiple projects at no cost as part of the value of their UEDA membership
- The nominated Initiative or project must have started in the last 5 years; demonstrating significant achieved progress
- An initiative or project from a previous year can be nominated for the current year if new significant results can be demonstrated

Awards Categories

- Talent
- Innovation
- Place
- Engaged University
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)



TALENT



INNOVATION



PLACE

**ENGAGED
UNIVERSITY**



**DIVERSITY,
EQUITY, &
INCLUSION**

Judging Criteria

1) Originality & Creativity

2) Impact

Demonstration of Excellence in
3) Leadership, Collaboration, and Strategic
Partnerships

4) Replicability, Scalability, and
Sustainability

5) Overall

Originality and Creativity

- A new and original contribution to its category?
 - Different from similar projects?
- An innovative way of thinking and doing?
 - Unique objectives, structure, approach, strategy, or results?
- Used to expand UEDA's new foundational taxonomy? An innovation for the field?

Impact

- A clear, logical plan to achieve their intended impact and to track progress?
- Quantitative metrics that demonstrate:
 - Significant economic development / engagement impact?
 - Achievement, at least partially, of the intended results?

Entrepreneur to Entrepreneur
(e2e) - 2013 Finalist – Leadership
and Collaboration (expired
category) – University of Wyoming



Leadership, Collaboration, and Strategic Partnerships

- How were relevant stakeholders identified, consulted, and engaged at different phases?
- Any partnerships with regional economic developers, government, business, industry, nonprofit, other institutions of higher education, etc.?
 - What were the various roles?
 - How did these partners affect the project?
- How was the institution a leader and/or convener?

Replicability, Scalability, and Sustainability

- Replication of any insights, tools, or best practices for other regions?
- Scale up or down (or modify) for different contexts?
- Sustainable business model beyond initial funding?

Overall

The Overall criterion is a subjective opportunity for the judges and Summit participants to score the projects based on individual opinions.

At the Summit, this criterion is based, at least in part, on the quality of the finalist's presentation and the presenter's responsiveness to questions.



Inspire Idaho – 2019 Winner –
Talent – University of Idaho
Coeur d'Alene

Insight from Previous Awards of Excellence Winners



2023 Award of Excellence
Winners at the 2023
UEDA Summit Co-
Sponsored by the
University of Utah at
Salt Lake City, UT

2023 Talent Winner: University of Notre Dame

Urban Poverty and Business Initiative (UPBI)



Michael Morris

2023 DEI Winner: University of North Iowa

Black Capital Projects



BLACK CAPITAL
STUDY + PROJECTS

Lindi Roelofse

How to Apply

All applications must be submitted entirely via [UEDA Application Portal](#).

Note: All finalists must be able to present in-person at the Annual UEDA Summit. Be sure to visit the UEDA Summit webpage for general information regarding the event.



We look forward to hearing
from you!



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