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Five SBDC Clients Win SBA Awards at State and Regional Level for National Small Business Week

PHILADELPHIA, PA – Five Pennsylvania Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) clients, in addition to the Clarion University and Widener University SBDCs have won awards from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) to salute their impact to the Pennsylvania economy and celebrate their commitment to their local community and region.

Every year, SBA solicits nominations for high-impact small businesses as part of their National Small Business Week Awards. This year, the Pennsylvania SBDC network had five client businesses selected as award recipients who join the national list of outstanding entrepreneurs and small business owners representing all 50 states and U.S. territories.

The SBA National Small Business Week Awards recognize small businesses on a variety of levels including growth of employees, increase in sales, sound financial performance, response to adversity and community contributions.

SBA award winners nominated by the Pennsylvania SBDC (separated by SBA district) are as follows:

SBA PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT WINNERS

- Small Business Development Center Excellence & Innovation Award (Eastern Pennsylvania and Federal Region III winner) - [Widener University SBDC](#) – Chester, PA
- Exporter of the Year (Eastern Pennsylvania, Federal Region III and National winner) [Zeigler Brothers, Inc.](#) – Gardners, PA
 - Nominated by the Kutztown University SBDC
- Family Business of the Year (Eastern Pennsylvania winner) [Gresham's Chophouse](#) – Hawley, PA
 - Nominated by The University of Scranton SBDC
- Small Business Person of the Year (Eastern Pennsylvania winner) - David Wise II, Owner G.S. Madison (Owner of two [1-800-GOT-Junk?](#) franchises) and [BOXAROO](#) – Reading, PA
 - Nominated by the Kutztown University SBDC and Jump Start Incubator

SBA PITTSBURGH DISTRICT WINNERS

- Small Business Development Center Annual Impact Award (Western Pennsylvania winner) [Clarion University SBDC](#) – Clarion, PA

SBDC Locations

Bucknell University

Clarion University

Duquesne University

Gannon University

Indiana University
of PennsylvaniaKutztown University
of Pennsylvania

Lehigh University

Lock Haven University

Penn State University

Saint Francis University

Saint Vincent College

Shippensburg University

Temple University

University of Pittsburgh

University of Scranton

The Wharton School,
University of
Pennsylvania

Widener University

Wilkes University

- Exporter of the Year (Western Pennsylvania winner) [Guy Chemical Company](#) – Somerset, PA
 - Nominated by the Saint Francis University SBDC
- Young Entrepreneur of the Year (Western Pennsylvania winner) - Jonathan Miller, [Dimples LLC](#) – Ashville, PA
 - Nominated by the Saint Francis University SBDC

“I am proud to recognize the achievements of these extraordinary small businesses for their outstanding performance,” said Christian Conroy, Pennsylvania SBDC State Director. “The Pennsylvania SBDC is a long-time supporter of SBA’s National Small Business Week and we are honored that Pennsylvania will be represented at the regional and national levels this year,” he added.

In addition to winning their respective Pennsylvania districts, two award winners have won at the SBA Region III level, beating out award nominations from the states of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Washington DC and West Virginia. The Widener University SBDC was awarded the Small Business Development Center Excellence & Innovation Award for both Eastern Pennsylvania and Region III. In addition, Zeigler Brothers, Inc. was awarded Exporter of the Year for their district, and also went on to win the award at the regional and national levels, securing the top SBA award for exports for the nation. Both the Widener University SBDC and Zeigler Brothers will attend an awards ceremony in Washington DC on June 21 to receive their official awards.

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of this signature event, National Small Business Week is proclaimed by the President of the United States to recognize the critical contributions of America’s small businesses and entrepreneurs. This year, the week-long celebration will run June 17-21 with events being held in multiple cities from coast-to-coast that are designed to help small businesses start, grow and succeed. To learn more, visit www.sba.gov/nsbw.

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About Pennsylvania Small Business Development Centers (SBDC)

The Pennsylvania SBDC network is the only statewide, nationally accredited program that provides high quality one-on-one consulting, training and information resources to empower new and existing businesses. SBDC consultants work with entrepreneurs in confidential, individualized sessions to help them with a range of business issues including testing a new business proposition, shaping a business plan, investigating funding opportunities, and much more. The SBDC program is a public/private partnership with the U.S. Small Business Administration, the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and 18 universities and colleges across the Commonwealth. For more information on the Pennsylvania SBDC services and impact, please visit www.pasbdc.org.