

## Example 3: Honoree

1. ***Please share a noteworthy contribution and/or technical accomplishment your nominee has achieved at her company, and why it is so impactful. Entries must be between 150 and 250 words maximum.***

Back in 1997, the previous owner of the company wanted to close its doors and retire. Having a vision for what the company could ultimately be, Jane organized a management buyout of the company using much of her own resources and successfully grew the company to what it is today. She continues to lead the company forward by executing acquisitions, developing new products for emerging markets, and finding new opportunities for expansion. Her leadership skills are not only demonstrated by the success and growth of the company, but in her employee's job satisfaction. The long average tenure of her employees and the community acknowledgement speak volumes about her leadership prowess.

Jane also leads by example. As a life-long learner, she finds ways to expand her knowledge by keeping up to date on new technologies and encouraging her staff to do the same. Jane ensures that her entire staff has the opportunity to participate in any number of career advancement programs.

2. ***Please share a noteworthy contribution your nominee has achieved in her community, and why it is so impactful. Entries must be between 150 and 250 words maximum.***

The greatest impact that Jane has made on her community is inspiring others to volunteer. Each year, she gives each employee 2 full paid days off to volunteer in their community. This gives employees the opportunity to make a difference in something they feel passionate about.

She also leads by example. Jane has led trips to Africa to provide education for under-served communities. She has also volunteered for a group that mentors high potential, low-income young women from Rwanda and Cambodia to personally help them on a journey toward becoming leaders in their home countries. Each mentor team collectively supports their scholar through the college application process, graduation and the launch of her career.

Jane's passion for empowering those around her in her community is evident in her role at the County Hired Education Program. Through this program Jane works with middle school, high school, and community college teachers to present what manufacturing has to offer future professionals. Along with other professionals in the County, she speaks with the group about growth in the industries served. To conclude each session the teachers present lessons learned and how they will apply in the classroom. Through this program, Jane has been invited to speak with high school students and to tell her personal story of career advancement that occurred within the community in which they live.

3. ***Please share how your nominee has been a leader by mentoring others and/or engaging the next generation of female talent. Entries must be between 150 and 250 words maximum.***

Jane spends much of her time sharing her experience and mentoring others. She is an active member of SEMI and sat on the Advisory Board of the Kellogg School of Management's Master of Management and Manufacturing Program. Jane gave the Commencement address to the Engineering school at Northwestern and for the Women's Initiative Network graduation. She has recently been involved as a guest lecturer at Oregon State University for their Entrepreneurship program and the Masters Intern Program at U of O.

Jane is a Past President of NAWBO (National Association of Women Business Owners) and a founding member of Semiconductor Women's Alliance Network, a member of SEMI and an active member of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) Board and the C200 organization. Jane is an avid supporter of women in manufacturing and engineering and consistently finds ways to mentor and support women trying to succeed in this field.

Jane is dedicated to her community. Her volunteer efforts are outstanding examples of her passion and contributions to the youth within the community she lives.

4. ***Explain why should your nominee be chosen as a 2019 STEP Ahead Honoree or Emerging Leader. Entries must be between 150 and 250 words maximum.***

Jane is a wife and the mother of 2 children and works hard to balance her family responsibilities with work and community involvement. She truly is an inspiring figure in this community. Through her work in the community, she helps to create awareness, interest and excitement about STEM careers and educates the public about some of the new advancements in the manufacturing industry to help change perceptions.

She is a model worker and always seeks ways to learn more to advance both company initiatives and develop personally. She encourages everyone around her to do their best, because her motto is "while it's not possible to be the best at everything you can always try your best."

Some people try to categorize her as the "female CEO," but when they meet her they quickly realize her skills speak for themselves and recategorize her as a "great CEO" for her ability to lead, adapt, and foster a strong workforce.