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Digital Rochester honors GREAT Awards winners

By [ANDREA DECKERT](#) - 2/2/2011 1:43:57 PM

Digital Rochester has announced the winners for the inaugural Greater Rochester Excellence and Achievements in Technology Awards program.

The awards were presented at a dinner Tuesday at the Rochester Plaza Hotel and Conference Center. The GREAT Awards program recognizes and celebrates the Greater Rochester community's entrepreneurial spirit in technological achievement by highlighting the organizations and individuals that are on the cutting edge of technological innovation and implementation.

More than 70 nominations were received. A panel of judges narrowed the nominations to 20 finalists for seven award categories and identified one award winner per category.

The winners are:

Communication Technology:

Entre Computer Services Inc., which was recognized for developing EScreenz, a tool that solves in-house communications problems using the screen saver an otherwise disregarded technology.

Going Green Award:

Xerox Corp., recognized for the Webster EA Toner Plant achieving zero waste to landfill, the first of Xerox's manufacturing plants to do so. All manufacturing and office waste is reused, recycled, or sent for waste-to-energy recovery.

Quality of Life Award:

Sandie Ville, president of the Aurora House of Western Monroe County Inc., was recognized for her vision and leadership in filling a need in the community and her use of technology to make it more comfortable for patients and their families.

Technology Services Award:

SimuTech Group (Northeast Group), recognized for excellence in engineering simulation and helping companies to efficiently bring innovative products to market.

Student Achievement:

Justin Lewis, Fran Rogers and Taylor Rose, students at Rochester Institute of Technology's Center for Student Innovation, were recognized for developing software that will enable deaf children across the world to communicate through video chat.

Visionary Leadership Award:

John Purcell, president and CEO, and Frank Chiaino, founder and chief operating officer Fibertech Networks LLC. Purcell and Chiaino were recognized for thinking out of the box, a willingness to take calculated risks, perseverance, and ultimately for building and sustaining a business that provides jobs for our region.

Rising Star:

Clickworker.com Inc. was recognized for leveraging technology to provide real work at home jobs for U.S. citizens and for choosing to begin its United States operations in Rochester.

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