

## Merchant of the Year Award 2011

The annual Merchant of the Year award is a prestigious recognition of a merchant retailer in Maine who has met the highest standards of excellence in the past year by improving its sales, the work environment for its employees and its contribution of its resources to the community.



### The Standards of Excellence:

- Continued growth in number of employees or sales;
- Commitment of company resources, including employees to community projects;
- Creation of a positive work environment for all employees.

The economic well-being of Maine rests squarely on the success of its retail merchant community, large and small, who provide jobs, products and services to consumers in Maine, across the United States and around the world. Many retail merchants in Maine fully exemplify the Standards of Excellence for Merchant of the Year.

### Eligibility:

To be eligible, the nominated business must have its corporate headquarters in Maine. Subsidiaries of international corporations may also be nominated if the US headquarters are based in Maine and if they operate largely autonomously.

Anyone may nominate a business for the Merchant of the Year Award. The nomination may be made by the business itself, a government agency, a chamber of commerce or interested individuals.

### Criteria:

The Standards of Excellence are the criteria that will be used in judging the nominees for the annual Merchant of the Year Award. The following questions should be used as guidelines and examples for retailers as they prepare their submissions for nomination.

### Demonstrated success by:

#### **1. Continued growth in number of employees and/or sales.**

Does the company have a clear mission statement that allows sustainable growth for itself and its employees? Does the company's goals and objectives create incentive for sustained growth? Does the company's marketing strategy keep up with a constantly changing marketplace?

#### **2. Commitment of company resources, including employees to community projects.**

Does the company have a community relations function at its corporate level? Does the company encourage employees to participate in community projects? Are company officers involved in community projects?

#### **3. Creation of a positive work environment for all employees.**

Does the company involve its employees in operational policy creation? Does the company create incentives for employee participation in company and community projects? Does the company's human resources policies provide for meaningful and continuing employee evaluation?

The award will be presented in **October 20, 2011 at the Maine Merchants Association Annual Meeting and Awards Celebration.**

The screening committee may request additional information from nominators, references or the company itself for the judge's consideration. All entries and supplementary materials will become property of the Maine Merchants Association and will not be returned. Decisions of the judging committee are final.

All entries for the 2011 award must be postmarked by **August 19, 2011.**

## **Submitting the Nomination**

Complete the "Official Nomination Form." Attach a statement of up to 1,000 words describing the company. In addition, you may submit as much background material as you feel necessary to support the statement.

## **The Nomination Form**

1. Indicate the complete name of the company. Indicate the name of the person responsible for the company's operations, such as the president or COO. Enter the name of the Chief Executive Officer of the company.
2. Please enter the name, title, organizational affiliation, telephone number, and complete mailing address of the person making the nomination. A nominator may be an employee of the company or a member of its board of directors. It may also be a government official, chamber of commerce or a representative of a non-profit organization.
3. Because finalists references may be contacted for verification of programs, activities and accomplishments, please choose references who are familiar with and can be available to discuss the company's activities in the Standards of Excellence. References should NOT be employees of the company, members of the board of directors of the company, or immediate relatives of either.

## **The Statement**

Please attach a narrative statement of up to 1,000 words which describes the company's overall operation (as best as it can be described by the nominator). The statement should include information about the company's relationship to each of the three Standards of Excellence. The questions following the Standards in the criteria section of the nomination form can be used as guides in preparing the statement.

## **Accompanying Materials**

You may submit as much appropriate supplementary material as you would like. Additional materials may include, but are not limited to samples of company policies, mission statements, company annual reports, employee newsletters, program evaluation forms. All materials become the property of the Maine Merchants Association and will not be returned.

Submit your application, with statement and supporting materials by August 19, 2011 to:

**Merchant of the Year  
c/o Maine Merchants Association  
P.O. Box 5060  
Augusta, ME 04332-5060**

**via UPS or FedEx  
Merchant of the Year  
c/o Maine Merchants Association  
5 Wade Street  
Augusta, ME 04330**

**Or Email [curtis@mainemerchants.org](mailto:curtis@mainemerchants.org) or fax us at 207-623-8377**



## **Previous Recipients**

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| <b>1980</b> | <b><i>Senter's Department Store</i></b>           |
| <b>1981</b> | <b><i>R.H. Reny Inc.</i></b>                      |
| <b>1982</b> | <b><i>Wilsons Dollar Stores</i></b>               |
| <b>1983</b> | <b><i>Porteous</i></b>                            |
| <b>1984</b> | <b><i>Standard Shoe Stores</i></b>                |
| <b>1985</b> | <b><i>Nicholson and Ryan</i></b>                  |
| <b>1986</b> | <b><i>Shaw's Supermarkets, Inc.</i></b>           |
| <b>1987</b> | <b><i>Laverdiere's Super Drugs</i></b>            |
| <b>1988</b> | <b><i>Frank Pomerleau, Inc.</i></b>               |
| <b>1989</b> | <b><i>Hannaford Brothers</i></b>                  |
| <b>1990</b> | <b><i>Lamey-Wellehan</i></b>                      |
| <b>1991</b> | <b><i>Marden's</i></b>                            |
| <b>1992</b> | <b><i>Land's End Gift Shop</i></b>                |
| <b>1993</b> | <b><i>S.W. Collins</i></b>                        |
| <b>1994</b> | <b><i>Moody &amp; Company</i></b>                 |
| <b>1995</b> | <b><i>Danica Design</i></b>                       |
| <b>1996</b> | <b><i>Downeast Sunsprouts/Samantha Juices</i></b> |
| <b>1997</b> | <b><i>Creative Apparel</i></b>                    |
| <b>1998</b> | <b><i>Ware Butler</i></b>                         |
| <b>1999</b> | <b><i>Past Retailers of the Year</i></b>          |
| <b>2000</b> | <b><i>Yardgoods Center</i></b>                    |
| <b>2001</b> | <b><i>Kittery Trading Post</i></b>                |
| <b>2002</b> | <b><i>Rosen's</i></b>                             |
| <b>2003</b> | <b><i>Boothbay Region Greenhouses</i></b>         |
| <b>2004</b> | <b><i>Miller Drug / Waltz Pharmacy</i></b>        |
| <b>2005</b> | <b><i>Indian Hill Trading Post</i></b>            |
| <b>2006</b> | <b><i>Hammond Lumber Company</i></b>              |
| <b>2007</b> | <b><i>Stonewall Kitchen</i></b>                   |
| <b>2008</b> | <b><i>Johnny's Selected Seeds</i></b>             |
| <b>2009</b> | <b><i>Acadia Corporation</i></b>                  |
| <b>2010</b> | <b><i>The Beadin' Path</i></b>                    |



## 2011 Merchant of the Year The Nomination Form

### 1. Nominee

Company

Contact Person Title

Mailing Address

City State Zip

Telephone E-Mail

Chief Executive Officer Title

Website

### 2. Nominator(s):

Name/Title

Name/Title

Organization

Organization

Mailing Address

Mailing Address

City/ST/Zip

City/ST/Zip

Telephone

Telephone

### 3. Reference Verifications

Name / Title

Organization

Mailing Address

City State Zip

Telephone E-Mail

Signature Date

Website

**Due Date: August 19, 2011**