



Thank you for taking the time to nominate a Woman or Company in STEMMy for the 13th Annual STEMMy Awards on October 29, 2026!

The [self-nomination form](#) will take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete, depending on how much you write about yourself. We suggest writing at least one paragraph for each question unless you need more to explain. Because the form cannot be saved as you go, we do recommend drafting your answers for the Questionnaire in a Word document and pasting each answer into the form fields before submitting.

To read more about the STEMMy Awards, go to [CXSTEMMys.com](https://cxstemmys.com).

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Be one of these: a female professional, student, educator, company, or community organization in a STEMMy-related field. However, in the WiSTEMM Champion category, a male or female can be nominated.
- Must live and/or work in the Kansas City metropolitan area.
- Have not previously been honored as a WiSTEMM Champion or Enterprising Innovator.
- Previous honorees cannot win the same award twice. However, they can be nominated for an award at a level “above” their previous award (e.g., a Student Achiever may be nominated for a Rising Trendsetter). To see a list of past honorees, please [click here](#).
- Previous nominees who have not won an award may be nominated again.

ENTRY:

- To submit yourself for consideration, complete the [self-nomination form](#). If you would like to submit a nomination for an individual or company, [use this nomination form](#).
- **All self-nominations should include at least one letter of recommendation from a colleague, professor, or close acquaintance in a STEMMy-related field. If you are self-nominating your company for the Corporate HERO or WiSTEMM Community Spotlight award, please provide references from other employees in the organization. These letters must answer the following questions in as much detail as possible:**
 1. **Briefly describe why you believe the nominee should be recognized for a STEMMy Award.**
 2. **How does this nominee champion Women in STEMMy fields through their work and community engagement?**
 3. **Describe the nominee in 3 words.**
- Choose only one category to nominate yourself in, as nominations in multiple categories will not be accepted.
- Award winners will be chosen by a panel of judges based on their applications.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **The self-nomination deadline is June 6, 2026, at 11:59 PM.**
- Winners will be notified by the end of July.
- The **Benefactor’s Roundtable Discussion & Happy Hour** is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at the T-Mobile Campus. [Click here](#) to purchase tickets.
- The **Awards Ceremony and Luncheon** will take place on Thursday, October 29, 2026, at Fiorella’s Event Space. [Click here](#) to purchase tickets.

Questions? Please contact Kerry Gentry Hartnett at kerry@centralexchange.org.

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Honorees are chosen through an independent review, with selections based entirely on the nominee’s merits, achievements, and contributions to their organizations and local community. Memberships or partnerships with Central Exchange are not considered in the judging process.



Questions for Student Achiever Self-Nominations

The **Student Achiever STEMMy Award** recognizes a female college student currently enrolled at a Kansas or Missouri college or university with professional aspirations in a STEMM field. The student has demonstrated academic achievements, shows exemplary student involvement in campus/community organizations, and is a leader amongst her peers at her college or university. This award can be given to an undergrad or graduate degree student.

1. Briefly describe why you believe you should be recognized as a WiSTEMM Student Achiever. Feel free to include accomplishments, academic achievements and awards in your student/professional career, as well as other areas of your life that wouldn't be included in any of the following questions. (Brag about yourself)
2. Describe how you stand out as a leader amongst your peers in supporting and nurturing women in STEMM fields and why this is important to you. (Now really brag about yourself!)
3. How are you involved in student organizations at your college/university and in the STEMM community?
4. What professional aspirations do you have in your STEMM field?

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Questions for WiSTEMM Educator Self-Nominations

The **WiSTEMM Educator Award** recognizes a full-time STEMM faculty member at any high school or college level. Based on student or fellow faculty evaluations and community accolades, her institution or community acknowledges her as an outstanding educator.

1. Briefly describe why you believe you should be recognized as a WiSTEMM Educator. Feel free to include accomplishments in your career as well as other areas of their life that wouldn't be included in any of the following questions.
2. Describe how you stand out amongst your peers in supporting and nurturing women in STEMM education and why this is important to you. Yes, please brag about yourself!
3. How have you been recognized as an Excellent Educator based upon student or faculty assessments?
4. How are you engaged at your school and in the broader community in efforts that promote STEMM, demonstrate social responsibility, and/or show how you invest in others?
5. How do you promote student involvement in STEMM related activities?

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Questions for Enterprising Innovator Self-Nominations

The **Enterprising Innovator Award** honors a woman business owner at a STEMM-focused company who demonstrates outstanding leadership by setting a clear vision and achieving notable success. She also shows industry excellence by influencing others in her STEMM field and is regarded as a key contributor within her industry.

For the Nominator:

1. Briefly describe why you believe you should be recognized as an Enterprising Innovator. Feel free to include accomplishments in your career as well as other areas of your life that wouldn't be included in any of the following questions.
2. Tell us about your company/business/innovation in the areas of STEMM.
3. How do you exemplify industry excellence and demonstrate influence in your field?
4. Describe how you stand out as a leader amongst your peers in supporting and nurturing women in STEMM fields and why this is important to you. (Yes, please brag about yourself!)
5. How are you involved in STEMM activities that impact our community, drive positive economic trends, demonstrate social responsibility, and invest in employee culture?

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Questions for Corporate HERO Self-Nominations:

The **Corporate HERO STEMMy Award** honors a company, whether large or small, that promotes women in STEM within their organization. This company actively participates in KC Metro STEM-related activities and supports community organizations. It strongly supports women in STEM fields and offers benefits and support through education, growth opportunities, flexibility, and camaraderie via initiatives such as ERGs.

1. Briefly describe why you believe your company should receive the Corporate HERO STEMMy Award.
2. Please provide your company's mission and/or values statement.
3. What ties to STEM fields does your company have?
4. Describe how your company actively engages in STEM activities that impact the Kansas City community, demonstrate social responsibility, and recognize women in STEM careers and leadership.
5. Explain how your company offers strong support and benefits for its female associates and invests in employee culture.

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Questions for WiSTEMM Community Spotlight Self-Nominations:

The **WiSTEMM Community Spotlight Award** honors a nonprofit, professional organization, or community initiative that advances STEMM within our region. The awardee helps build a pipeline of STEMM talent in the community, promotes STEMM programs, and increases awareness of STEMM.

1. Briefly describe why you believe your organization or initiative should receive the WiSTEMM Community Spotlight Award. Include any program accomplishments and other community awards.
2. Please provide your organization's mission and/or values statement.
3. What ties to STEMM fields does your organization have?
4. Describe how your organization actively engages in STEMM activities that impact the Kansas City community, demonstrate social responsibility, and recognize women in STEMM careers and leadership.
5. Explain how your organization offers strong support and benefits for its female associates and invests in employee culture.

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Questions for Rising Trendsetter Self-Nominations

The **Rising Trendsetter Award** honors a woman with **10 Years or Less of professional experience in her STEMM field** who has demonstrated significant achievement early in her career. She is a role model for women in STEMM, gaining peer recognition and support. She is an emerging leader among women in STEMM and participates in STEMM activities at her company and in her community.

1. Briefly describe why you believe you should be recognized as a Rising Trendsetter. Feel free to include accomplishments in your career as well as other areas of your life that wouldn't be included in any of the following questions.
2. Describe yourself in 3 words.
3. Please give examples of how you are an influencer and emerging leader for women in STEMM, how you show your peers recognition and support and why this is important to you. (Yes, please brag about yourself!)
4. How do you exemplify industry excellence and demonstrate influence as a key contributor in your company or STEMM field?
5. How are you involved in STEMM activities that impact our community, drive positive economic trends, demonstrate social responsibility, and invest in employee culture?

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Questions for Groundbreaking Leadership Nominations

The **Groundbreaking Leadership Award** honors a woman in STEMM who has made significant contributions to the STEMM community throughout **her more than 10-year professional career in her field**. She advocates for women in STEMM by promoting gender equity in leadership roles, supporting women entering or advancing in STEMM careers, and celebrating their achievements. She is a comprehensive leader who casts a vision, sets and achieves goals, learns from other leaders, mentors others, influences peers, and drives innovation and change.

1. Briefly describe why you believe you should be recognized as a Groundbreaking Leader. Feel free to include accomplishments in your career as well as other areas of your life that wouldn't be included in any of the following questions.
2. Describe yourself in 3 words.
3. How are you known for industry excellence? Please give at least one example of how you are known for being an expert on a product/service/process, having a history of high-quality results/customer loyalty, and contributing to progress in your industry.
4. Describe how, as a 360-degree leader, you cast visions, set and attain goals, learn from other leaders, mentor others, influence peers, and propel innovation and change.
5. How do you promote gender equality in leadership roles, support women entering or growing in STEMM careers, and how do you celebrate achievements by women in STEMM? Why is this important to you?

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Questions for WiSTEMM Champion Nominations:

The **WiSTEMM Champion Award** honors a leader, regardless of gender, who works in or is connected to a STEMM field or organization. These individuals are bridge builders who envision gender equality and actively work to achieve it. They advocate for women in STEMM, empowering them to reach their full potential. They support women as they enter or advance in their STEMM careers and actively promote them in their workplaces and communities. They are genuine champions for others.

1. Briefly describe why you believe you should be recognized as the WiSTEMM Champion. Feel free to include accomplishments in your career as well as other areas of their life that wouldn't be included in any of the following questions.
2. Describe yourself in 3 words.
3. Describe how you stand out as a leader amongst your peers in supporting and nurturing women in STEMM fields and why this is important to you. (Yes, please brag about yourself!)
4. How are you a champion of women in STEMM? Specifically, how do you promote gender equality in leadership roles, support women entering or growing in STEMM careers, and celebrate women's achievements in STEMM? (Now, we really want you to brag!)
5. What else have you done throughout your career or in the community that makes you a WiSTEMM Champion that is not mentioned above?

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