

Mark Lewon Named Small-Business Champion of the Year

The Leadership Council of NFIB/Utah named Salt Lake City entrepreneur Mark Lewon its Small-Business Champion of the Year

Each year, we single out a small-business owner for special recognition and honor him or her with the prestigious Small-Business Champion award. This is the fourth year we have recognized small-business owners who go the extra mile for independent enterprises. Last year's Utah winner was Evan Vickers of Cedar City. In 2005, the award went to Jan Zogmaister of West Haven, and in 2004 to John Christensen of Salt Lake City.

Lewon is a member of NFIB/Utah's Leadership Council and Leadership Trust political action committee, a contributor to the Young Entrepreneur Foundation scholarship program, a supporter of other NFIB activities and a public speaker on behalf of small business. He has also testified before the Utah Legislature on small-business issues.

Lewon is vice president of operations for Salt Lake City-based Utah Metal Works, a family-owned company he joined in 1988. The firm became an NFIB member in 1996. Lewon is a member of the Scrap Recycling Institute, and at various times has served as its president, vice president and treasurer for its local area. He also served on the institute's national board of directors, audit committee, non-ferrous division, membership committee, convention committee and executive committee. In addition, Lewon has been active in the preparations for United Way Day for the past seven years.

"Small-business owners across Utah owe Mark Lewon a huge debt of gratitude for his work on their behalf," says Candace Daly, NFIB/Utah state director. "His expert testimony before the Utah Legislature has made a difference in helping kill anti-small-business bills and moving forward legislation that is good for independent enterprises."

Need a Speaker?
LET NFIB HELP. >

NFIB/Utah State Director Candace Daly would like to come to your community and talk about the impact of legislation on your small business.

There is no cost to your organization, but we do need time for scheduling. Contact Candace at 801-599-8519 or by e-mail at candace.daly@nfib.org.

5 Utah Students Win NFIB Scholarships

FIVE HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENTS from Utah were among 422 nationally to win NFIB Young Entrepreneur Foundation scholarships this year. The program's goal is to set future small-business owners on the path to entrepreneurship. Young Entrepreneur Award recipients will attend the university, college, community college or vocational/technical institute of their choice with \$1,000 in tuition assistance from the NFIB Young Entrepreneur Foundation. The Utah winners were:

NFIB YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR AWARDS

Northridge High School senior **Katie Jobst** of Layton

Park City High School senior **Alex Lee** of Park City

Layton High School senior **Aaron West** of Layton

NFIB/VISA USA YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR AWARD

Jordan High School senior **Matthew Millet** of Sandy

NFIB/WELLS FARGO YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR AWARD

Timpanogos High School senior **Joshua Miller** of Orem

The program, which encourages students to consider a career in small business, made its debut in 2003 when it awarded a total of 110 scholarships nationwide. This year's near quadrupling is thanks to financial support from numerous small-business leaders, and corporate and foundation supporters. The major corporate sponsors are Visa USA, the Wells Fargo Foundation and Salesgenie.com.

"We are overjoyed by the tremendous amount of interest in our scholarship program," says Don V. Cogman, chair, NFIB Young Entrepreneur Foundation Board of Directors. "This year, more than 3,000 students applied to receive a YEF award, demonstrating that the entrepreneurial spirit continues to thrive in America. NFIB congratulates this year's winners for their tremendous accomplishments and hopes the scholarships will assist these young entrepreneurs as they continue on their paths toward successful futures."

In addition to the \$1,000 scholarships, NFIB YEF and Visa USA also awarded four \$5,000 scholarships to this year's semifinalists and one \$10,000 scholarship to a student selected as the 2007 Young Entrepreneur of the Year. (See related story, page 26.) To earn a scholarship, students were required to write an essay describing their entrepreneurial endeavors and future goals. Standardized test scores, GPA and class rank were also considered. NFIB members around the country nominated applicants for the Young Entrepreneur Awards.

Would You Like to Contribute to a Scholarship or Nominate an Applicant?

Students graduating in the spring of 2008 are eligible to apply for a 2008 NFIB Young Entrepreneur Award beginning Nov. 12, 2007, through Feb. 11, 2008.

NFIB members wishing to sponsor a student for a YEF award can do so beginning Feb. 22, 2008, through March 24, 2008. Contributions to the Young Entrepreneur Foundation are welcome any time. Learn more at www.NFIB.com/YEF.