



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**GRAND RAPIDS AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NAMES
2012 EPIC AWARD FINALISTS**

Grand Rapids - Seventeen area businesses and individuals will be vying for six awards at the third annual EPIC Awards, an event hosted by the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce. The EPIC Awards (which stands for **Entrepreneurial, Progressive, Innovative and Collaborative**) recognizes businesses and individuals that support the community, demonstrate growth, are innovative, and have worked with others as mentors and collaborators. Finalists in all award categories are:

Small Business of the Year

Criterion Manufacturing Solutions
Integrated Strategies, Inc.
SecurAlarm Systems, Inc.

Woman-Owned Business of the Year

Busy Bea's Services, Inc.
Media 1
roi Design

Young Entrepreneur of the Year

Mark Van Holstyn, Mutually Human Software
Ryan Cook, Snap Fitness
Molly Clauhs, The Silver Spork

Minority-Owned Business of the Year

Achievement Resources, LLC
Jim Roberts Enterprises, LLC

Excellence in Business

DK Security & Investigations
Michigan Blood
Open Systems Technologies

Non-Profit of the Year

Down Syndrome Association of West Michigan
Kids' Food Basket
YWCA West Central Michigan

The recipient of each award will be announced at the EPIC Awards dinner, to be held on Wednesday, May 16, 2012 at the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park. The event will run from 5:30 – 8 p.m. Ticket costs are \$60 for those employed by Chamber member companies and \$85 for future members. For more information, to register for the event, or for sponsorship opportunities, visit www.grandrapids.org/epic-awards.

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About the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce

With more than 120 years of experience creating opportunities for business success, the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce is the premier business membership organization in West Michigan. Though the area's largest employers its 2,700 member businesses, more than 80% of members are small companies with 50 or fewer employees. By helping members connect, grow and succeed, the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce is a community partner that provides value for members, enhances the business climate in the area, and advocates for public policy that supports economic growth and vitality.