



Program Vision

We're excited to debut a new business innovation awards program for the 9-county Sacramento region. The 2016 [Sacramento Region Innovation Awards](#) will recognize significant innovations and the innovators and local companies that brought them to fruition.

The program was founded by the law firm of [Stoel Rives LLP](#), which has successfully championed similar innovation award programs in in [Utah](#) and [Idaho](#). The [Sacramento Business Journal](#) is the program's media sponsor and [Moss Adams LLP](#) serves as the official CPA vote tabulator.

Award nominations are reviewed by a panel of experts sourced from local business, technology and academic communities. The nomination window is between June 1 and July 22 of this year. Finalists in 6 separate categories will be announced in September and the winners will be celebrated at a November 4, 2016 luncheon ceremony.

These awards are a great opportunity for entrepreneurs and innovators to receive recognition and publicity for their eligible submissions. Follow the conversation at hashtag [#SacInnov8Awards](#) as we shine a bright light on the creative spirit of the Sacramento region, and honor the people and organizations that bring new products and services to market.

Nomination Categories

Nominations are accepted into the following categories:

- **Advanced Manufacturing**
- **Food and Agribusiness**
- **Hardware & Electronics**
- **Medical and Health Technologies & Services** (incl. devices, drugs, diagnostics, medical IT products, etc.) - *supported by MedStart*
- **Software** (incl. consumer/enterprise, social media, apps, gaming, cloud, big data, etc.)
- **Sustainability** (incl. clean tech, energy, water, climate change adaptation, etc.)

Innovations in all forms are appropriate for consideration if they meet the eligibility requirements (See “Qualifying Innovations” below). Depending on the nature and quantity of nominations submitted, program organizers reserve the right to assign nominations into most-appropriate categories.

Judging

A “**Selection Committee**” comprised of approximately 50 professionals from the Sacramento region’s business, technology and academic communities — all with experience pertaining to one of the program’s categories — carefully review the nominations during a seven-week evaluation process. During this process, each Selection Committee member also reviews nominations in a subcommittee pertaining to their area of expertise. In the event that conflicts exist between Selection Committee members and nominations, members will provide full disclosure to the rest of the committee, and then refrain from voting in the category in which the nomination is being judged. Following the evaluation process, each Selection Committee member will vote on ALL nominations submitted in EACH category (except on categories in which a nomination is being judged to which they have a direct tie). As many as three finalists (one being the winner) will be announced per category.

Innovations not named as finalists may be eligible to receive an Honorable Mention. Selection Committee members’ votes are tabulated by a certified public accountant provided by **Moss Adams LLP**. While Stoel Rives organizes the program, no one from the law firm votes. All nominees will be notified the week of September 19, 2016.

Preliminary Selection Committee (subject to change)

The Selection Committee will consist of approximately 50 leaders from the Sacramento region’s technology, business and academic communities.

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

- Steve Mills, Partner, DCA Capital Partners
- Gino DeCaro, VP of Communications, California Manufacturing & Technology Association (CMTA)
- Tony Lopez, Vice President of Operations, Pride Industries
- John Krueger, Executive VP, Greater Sacramento Area Economic Council

FOOD & AGRIBUSINESS

- Kristy Levings, Director, AgStart
- Joe Schmidt, Senior VP Business Development & Strategy, BioConsortia, Inc.
- Anna Klien, VP & CFO, Sunsweet
- Julie Morris, Director of Technology Innovation, World Food Center at UC Davis
- Trish Kelley, Senior Vice President, Valley Vision
- Helen Singmaster, General Counsel, Raley's
- Ryan Sharp, Associate Director, Venture Catalyst, UC Davis
- Ashish Malik, VP of Global Marketing, Biologics, CropScience Division, Bayer CropScience LP
- Melissa Jones, Partner, Stoel Rives LLP [non-voting liaison]

HARDWARE & ELECTRONICS

- Harry Laswell, CEO, Powerhouse Science Center
- Binda Mangat, President/CEO, Quorum Technologies, Inc.
- Amit Gattani, Senior Director of Segment Marketing, Embedded Solutions Group, Micron Technology, Inc.
- Norman White, Senior Attorney, Intel
- Robb Moore, CEO, ioSafe
- Tim Keller, Project Coordinator, Area 52 / Sierra Energy

MEDICAL AND HEALTH TECHNOLOGY & SERVICES - *supported by MedStart*

- John Caterham, CEO, Social Interest Solutions
- John Mesic, M.D., Physician Executive, Sutter Health Valley Area
- Cary Adams, JD, CEO, MedForce Accelerator / Almond Tree Capital
- Claire Pomeroy, M.D., MBA, President and CEO, Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation, Former Dean of the UC Davis School of Medicine
- Warren Smith, Ph.D., Professor, Electrical & Electronic Engineering Department, California State University, Sacramento
- Simon Cherry, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Biological Engineering, University of California, Davis
- Howard Bubb, CEO, SARTA
- Zack Schmidt, CEO, SureClinical
- Chris Wood, Senior Director, Mercy Neurological Institute , Dignity Health
- Chris Gresens, M.D., Senior Medical Director and Vice President of Global Medicine , BloodSource
- Dushyant Pathak, Associate Vice Chancellor, Office of Research, Executive Director Venture Catalyst, UC Davis
- Matt Phillips, Director, MedStart, Social Interest Solutions
- Meg Arnold, Principal, GSD Consulting
- Matt Bethards, Stoel Rives LLP [non-voting liaison]

SOFTWARE

- Roger Akers, Managing Partner, Akers Capital LLC
- Laura Good, Consultant, Laura Good Consulting Services
- Vaibhav Nadgauda, Partner, Moneta Ventures
- Corley Phillips, Director, Sacramento Entrepreneurship Academy
- Brandon Weber, Founder, The Urban Hive
- Kim Box, Director, American River Bank
- Mark Otero, Electronic Arts

SUSTAINABILITY

- Todd Lindstrom, CEO, Enable Energy
- Gary Simon, Chairman, CleanStart, Inc.
- Nicole England, Teichert Construction
- Erica Manuel, Manager: Community, Economic Development & Education, SMUD
- John Bissell, CEO, Micromidas, Inc.
- Chris Russell, Partner, Stoel Rives LLP [non-voting liaison]

Submission Process / June 1 - July 22

- Nominations must be submitted via the online form, hosted by the *Sacramento Business Journal* ([see website Nominations section](#))
- Nominations must include company/entity logo and at least three photos of the innovation or innovating team (in a high resolution JPEG format). Additional materials are encouraged and welcomed such as marketing brochures, news articles, diagrams and client testimonials (in Word or PDF format).
- Nominators are welcome to mail in product prototypes or samples. All mailed materials must be received by end of business July 22, 2016. (see nomination form for contact details)

Qualifying Innovations

Qualified innovations must meet the following criteria:

- The innovation must be created or a primary portion of the work on the innovation must have been performed by a Sacramento-region entity. Sacramento-region is defined as Butte, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Solano, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties.
- The innovation must have been recently developed. Because many innovations do not have a clear-cut beginning or end in its evolution, the organizers have chosen not to set a definitive time frame on the entry's creation.
- Innovations from academic entities MUST be in the commercialization stage.

Questions

Contact us at 916.447.0700 or via email:

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[Melissa Jones](#), Managing Partner & 2016 Program Co-Chair: melissa.jones@stoel.com

[Chris Russell](#), Partner & 2016 Program Co-Chair: chris.russell@stoel.com



The inaugural Sacramento Region Innovation Awards program is presented by



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