



# *News Release*

**Maine District Office**

---

**Release Date:** March 13, 2012  
**Release Number:** 12-06D

**Contact:** William Card (207) 622-8555  
**Internet Address:** <http://www.sba.gov/news>  
**Follow us on** [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

## **SBA Announces Annual Award Winners**

### **Black Dinah Chocolatiers receives Home-Based Business Champion of the Year Award**

Augusta, Maine – Today, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced its annual award winners for 2012. Black Dinah Chocolatiers has been selected to receive the prestigious Home-Based Business Champion of the Year Award.

“Small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and recognizing those who work so hard to facilitate their success is truly an honor,” said Maurice “Moe” Dubé, SBA District Director for Maine. “It is a particular privilege to present this award to Black Dinah Chocolatiers because they have achieved success in their own small business, and have been instrumental in providing opportunities to others to achieve small business success, as well,” added Dubé.

Black Dinah Chocolatiers is located on Isle au Haut and produces truffles, caramels and assorted chocolate confections, which are available year-round in 16 stores from Portland to Orono. The company has obtained loan guaranty funding from the SBA, and has also received technical assistance from the Women’s Business Center, an SBA Resource Partner.

Black Dinah Chocolatiers will be honored at an SBA celebration luncheon on May 17, 2012 at the Augusta Civic Center.

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) was created in 1953, and assists our nation’s small businesses in creating jobs, preserving free competitive enterprise, and strengthening the overall economy of our nation. With an ongoing commitment to provide access to capital, government contracting opportunities and technical assistance to our small businesses, the SBA currently has a small business loan portfolio of nearly \$93 billion working to facilitate the success of our nation’s entrepreneurs.

###