

2018 Rhode Island Small Business Awards



**Small Business
Awards
Class of 2018**

Small Business Person of the Year

**Kelly Mendell
President
MIKEL
(Middletown)**



National Subcontractor
**Charles Dewey, CEO
David Evans, President
Evans Capacitor Company
(East Providence)**

**New England
Woman-Owned
Small Business**

Carol Dancer
President
Absorbent Specialty
Products
(Cumberland)



**New England
Veteran-Owned
Small Business**

John Shepard
CEO
Veterans Assembled
electronics (VAe)
(Providence)



**New England
Financial Services
Champion**

Buck Harris
Vice President,
Community Lending
Community Investment
Corporation
(Providence)





Small Business Exporter
Michael Sigourney, CEO
Anne Sigourney, CFO
Richard Grundy, President
AVTECH Software
(Warren)

Jeffrey Butland
Family-Owned
Small Business

Lisa M. Sienkiewicz
Gail Parella
Co-Owners
Gil's Appliances
(Bristol)



Joseph G. E. Knight
Award for
Entrepreneurial
Excellence

Christine Francis
Owner
Carmen & Ginger
(Providence)



**Minority-Owned
Small Business**

Alba Rios
Owner
Spanish Wholesale Center
(Central Falls)



Microenterprise

Nancy Warner
Owner
The Worm Ladies of Charlestown
(Charlestown)

**Small Business
Manufacturer**

Donald J. Boyle
President
Jade Manufacturing
Company
(Warwick)





Young Entrepreneur

Johnny Luo, M.D.
 President
 Doctor's Choice
 (Warwick)

Accepting on behalf of Johnny is Leah Luo.

District Director Award

Posthumously
 Cheryl Watkins Sned
 President & CEO
 Baneker Industries
 (North Smithfield)

Accepting on behalf of Cheryl is Junior Jabbe, Rene Payne, and Linda Watkins.



Home-Based Small Business

Kim M. Coulter
 William A. Coulter
 Nina A. Luchka
 Joshua A. Coulter
 Partners
 Stony Hill
 Cattle Company
 (Charlestown)

Photographed with Small Business Award winners are the Chairman of Rhode Island

SCORE, Ed Gromada; Lieutenant Governor, the Honorable Daniel J. McKee; General Treasurer, the Honorable Seth Magaziner; Secretary of State, the Honorable Nellie Gorbea; SBA Regional Administrator, Wendell G. Davis; and Rhode Island District Direc-