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Media Release

Billings Chamber Announces 2026 Business Excellence Award Recipients

For Immediate Release

Billings, Mont., Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2026 Annually the Billings Chamber of Commerce recognizes exceptional leaders whose impact and example are deserving of recognition that goes beyond their accomplishments and is reflected in their character, their leadership, and their integrity. The Business Excellence Awards honor individuals and organizations for contributions that undoubtedly make Billings a better place to work and live.

Award recipients are members of the Billings Chamber and selected through a scoring process by an anonymous committee of Billings Chamber board members and committee leaders, following a period of public nomination submissions.

"This year's award recipients represent the very best of what it means to lead, build and invest in Billings, while demonstrating that business excellence is about more than success on paper," says Cathy Grider, vice president of business growth and talent for the Billings Chamber of Commerce. "From entrepreneurs and business owners to emerging leaders, employers and nonprofit innovators, each of this year's honorees have created opportunities, invested in others, challenged the status quo and made our community stronger. These leaders are building businesses, careers, connections and solutions that will shape the future of Billings, and we are proud to celebrate the lasting impact they are making in our community."

The 2026 Business Excellence Award recipients are:
Employer of the Year – COP Construction
Outstanding Business Person – Dr. Tanya Riddle, Billings Dermatology & Aesthetics
Small Business of the Year – Frae Collective
Groundbreakers – Allies In Aging, Tyler Amundson and Erika Purington
NextGEN Exceptional Emerging Leader – Cody Reitz, MetraPark

Recipients will be recognized at the 2026 Billings Chamber Annual Business Celebration on Thursday, September 24, 2026, at the Billings Hotel and Convention Center. This is the second year of this event, which combines the best of the Chamber Breakfast and Annual Meeting and is presented by Marsh McLennan Agency and KOA. The event will run from 3:30-6 p.m. with doors opening at 2:45 p.m. and appetizers and beverages served during the reception, following the program.

Tickets are now available for purchase at BillingsChamber.com:

- Non-members may purchase a table of 8 for $480 (available only for a limited time) or non-member single general admission ticket for $60 each.
- Chamber members may purchase a table of 8 for $400 (available only for a limited time), or general admission tickets for $50 each.

Learn more about the event and read about these remarkable Business Excellence Award recipients at BillingsChamber.com.

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Catalyst. Convener. Champion. The Billings Chamber of Commerce represents our 1,100 members who employ more than 45,000 people. We are a catalyst for business growth, a convener of leaders and influencers, and a champion for a thriving community.