THE 2025
MARGARET LYN MCDERMID
WOMEN IN TECH AWARDS

MARCH 6, 2025

The Margaret Lyn McDermid Awards
recognize + celebrate women technologists
making an impact in the greater Richmond area.

Frequently asked questions

What makes for a well-written nomination? Use concrete examples to persuade the judges that the nominee has made a mark. The best nominations provide deep insight into the nominee's achievements as it pertains to the award. When applicable, they quantify results and/or impact on their organization or community.

Does the nominee have to be local? A nominee needs to have a local presence. By local we mean regardless of their location, they represent a Richmond organization, and their impact is on this community.

How about a link to a web site? Sure. You can include a link to additional information if you want. It could prove useful if they have further questions or seek additional information.

How are the winners chosen? Finalists and winners are selected by MLM Award's Committee. The judges try to select finalists and winners that best represent the award category. All honorees are subject to a vetting process.

What's Next? All nominees are invited to attend the 2025 MLM Awards event on March 6th and the Bolling Haxall House.   Official invite to follow.

Preview the nomination questions:

The Paula Gulak Impact on Community Award

The Paula Gulak Impact On Community Award is awarded to the woman that made a significant impact on the Richmond community in the growth, enhancement, education, and promotion of technology in or outside of her organization.

- Please list three specific bullet point items exhibiting how the nominee has positively impacted the community of women in technology in Richmond:*
  - **Key Results & Contributions (past 12 months) - Be specific and provide measurable data & stats where possible.**
- How is the future of the women in tech community advanced by the nominee's work?*
- Please list three words/phrases that summarize the nominee's work:*
- Please provide a personal quote about the nominee:*

Rising Star Nomination

Rising Star is awarded to a woman in the beginning stages of her technical career (1-5yrs) who exemplifies potential and the future of women in technology. She is working in the technology trenches daily, making a substantive contribution to her organization or field.

- Please describe the nominee's current professional role and responsibilities:*
- Please list three specific bullet point items exhibiting the accomplishments of the nominee that showcase why they are a rising star:*
  - **Key Results & Contributions (past 12 months) - Be specific and provide measurable data & stats where possible.**
- Please list three words/phrases that summarize the nominee's work:*
- Please provide a personal quote about the nominee:*

Male Ally Nomination

Male Ally - An ally who has gone out of their way to improve the diversity levels of women in IT, within the organization and/or in the wider community. Allies relentlessly work towards changing the prevailing mindsets and attitudes. Successful nominations must provide case studies or examples of how the candidate has gone of their way, or strategically prioritized, getting more women into IT and/or supporting them in their career.

- Please describe why the nominee is deserving of this award:*
- Please list three specific bullet point items exhibiting how the nominee has positively impacted the community of women in technology in Richmond:*
- How is the future of the women in tech community advanced by the nominee's work?*
- Please list three words/phrases that summarize the nominee's work:*
- Please provide a personal quote about the nominee:*

Innovator Award

Innovator Award is awarded to a woman whose innovative use of technology enhanced processes, methodologies, and/or services to benefit the organization.

- Please describe why the nominee is deserving of this award:*
- Please describe in technical detail the new technology, application, process, methodology, or service advanced by the nominee's work:*
- Please list three words/phrases that summarize the nominee's work:*
- Please provide a personal quote about the nominee:*

EmpowHER

EmpowHER is awarded to a woman who has accelerated her career (5-20yrs) beyond typical performance expectations by providing exceptional leadership and mentorship to advance the growth of women in the technology industry. This award recognizes a woman who advocates for and developed future leaders.

- Please list three specific bullet point items exhibiting the accomplishments of the nominee that showcase why exemplify the Shatter award:*

- o **Key Results & Contributions (past 12 months) - Be specific and provide measurable data & stats where possible.**
- Please describe the nominee's current professional role and responsibilities:*
- Please list three words/phrases that summarize the nominee's work:*
- Please provide a personal quote about the nominee:*

Lifetime Achievement Nomination

Lifetime Achievement Award is awarded to a woman who has demonstrated the highest degree of IT excellence, innovation and leadership and shone a light on the great things women in IT can achieve. Candidates should have not only have demonstrated outstanding business- and/or technology-focused achievements, but also acted as a positive role model and actively sought to bring more diversity to the technology industry throughout their career (20+ yrs).

- Please list five specific bullet point items exhibiting the most impactful lifetime accomplishments of the nominee:*
  - o **Key Results & Contributions - Be specific and provide measurable data & stats where possible.**
- Describe how the nominee exemplifies the term "Lifetime Achievement"
- Please list three words/phrases that summarize the nominee's work:*
- Please provide a personal quote about the nominee:*