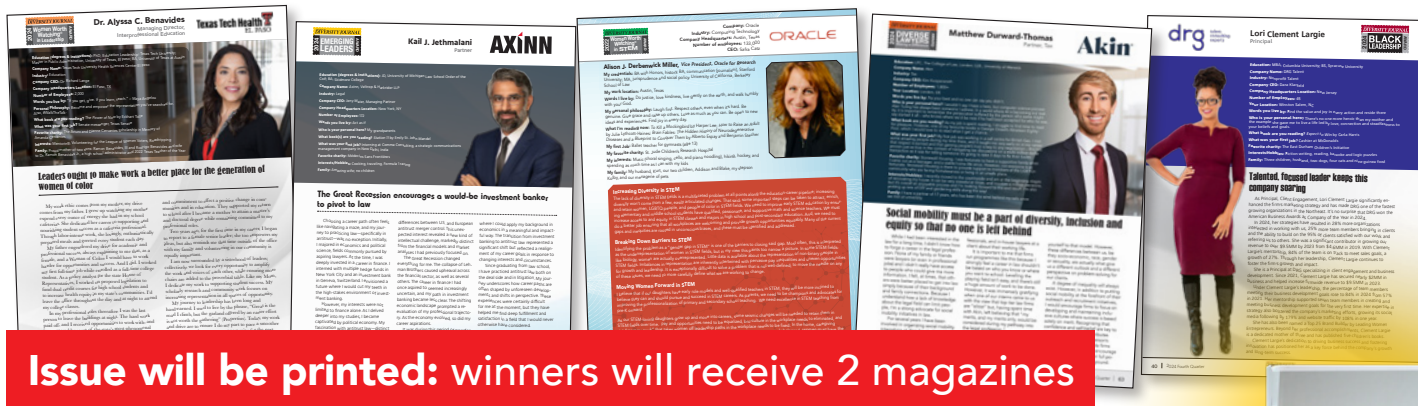


JOYFUL LEADER AWARD

NOMINATION FORM

* Nomination fee will be returned if your candidate is not selected.



Celebrating Leadership That Inspires Positivity, Creativity, and Joy

Profiles in Leadership Journal **Joyful Leader Award** celebrates leaders who bring **joy, enthusiasm, and inspiration** to their organizations. It recognizes those who lead with heart, humanity, and create uplifting workplaces. These leaders focus on **positivity, growth, and fulfillment in the workplace**, not just strategic thinking and decision-making.

This award is open to leaders from **all industries**—corporate executives, entrepreneurs, educators, nonprofit leaders, creative visionaries, and beyond. Whether leading a Fortune 500 company, a startup, or a community organization, a Joyful Leader transforms **how people experience work and leadership**.

Why Joyful Leadership Matters

Workplaces that **promote positivity** and psychological safety have **higher productivity, better teamwork, and lower turnover rates**. Employees value leaders who make them feel engaged, valued, and inspired. The Joyful Leader Award recognizes leaders who create thriving work environments through humor, playfulness, emotional intelligence, and optimism, fostering a culture of creativity, innovation, and well-being.

Nomination Criteria

Candidates for the Joyful Leader Award should demonstrate:

- **Positivity & Enthusiasm:** They bring an uplifting energy to the workplace, making leadership an enjoyable and engaging experience for their teams.
- **Use of Humor & Lightness:** They understand the power of humor to build trust, ease tension, and create strong connections.
- **Creativity & Playfulness:** They encourage innovation by fostering an environment where new ideas are welcomed and explored.
- **Emotional Intelligence & Empathy:** They lead with kindness, ensuring that employees feel seen, heard, and appreciated.
- **Resilience & Optimism:** They face challenges with a forward-thinking, can-do attitude that inspires others to do the same.
- **Commitment to Well-Being:** They actively cultivate a workplace where employees feel fulfilled and supported.

Profiles in
Leadership
Journal®

Leadership
Award
2025

NOMINATION DEADLINE:

September 19, 2025

Your nomination allows us to showcase and honor these Joyful Leaders and recognize the inclusive organizations that support their success.

Our crystal award provides each recipient with a lasting reminder of this prestigious honor. It will be shipped directly to your designee for internal celebrations at organizations around the globe.

Questions? Contact James Rector *Publisher*

Email: publisher@leadershipjournal.com Office: 440-892-0444 Mobile: 440-662-9770

Profiles in Leadership Journal: Gemini Towers #1 • 1991 Crocker Road, #600 • Cleveland, OH 44145 • www.leadershipjournal.com

JOYFUL LEADER AWARD

NOMINATION FORM

Complete Your Nomination in 4 Steps

1. Provide important nomination information on pages 3 – 5 of this document.

Unlike traditional leadership awards focused on financial success or influence, the **Joyful Leader Award** shines a light on a **new kind of leadership—one that embraces humanity, joy, and connection.**

- **It's a fresh, timely perspective on leadership.** At a time when workplace burnout and disengagement are rising, this award focuses on the leaders who make work fulfilling.
- **It appeals to a wide audience.** Joyful leadership transcends industry, experience level, and background—anyone with a leadership mindset can embody these qualities.
- **It's a game-changer for company culture.** Being recognized as a Joyful Leader will encourage more leaders to integrate positivity and engagement into their approach.

2. Complete the Nomination Processing Fee Area on Page 5

There is a \$495 processing fee per nomination which must be received by the nomination deadline. If your nominee is not selected your nomination fee will be refunded.

3. Upload* Your Completed Nomination document by September 19, 2025 at <https://leadershipjournal.com/joyful-nomination-upload/>.

* Nomination forms must be submitted/uploaded via PLJ's secure online portal. Email submissions will not be accepted!

4. Recognize Your Leaders with Confidence

We understand that today's communications require care and consideration. That's why *Profiles in Leadership Journal* offers all nominating organizations the opportunity to review and approve their award winner's profile prior to publication.

Your organization remains in full control of how your leadership is portrayed—we're your partner in celebrating excellence, not a source of concern.

It's that Easy

If your nominee should be selected as a 2025 Joyful Leader Award recipient, we will notify both your successful nominee and the person who nominated him or her. We'll also send each nominee a Question & Answer packet. He or she will be asked to answer a few questions, write an optional brief essay, and provide a high-resolution photograph of him- or herself, as well as a digital version of your organization's logo. Each nominee's photograph, optional essay, and professional information will appear on a dedicated full page in our Q4 issue. Just complete the Nomination area on pages 3 and 4. Links for upload and payment are on page 5.

DEADLINE for Nominations:
September 19, 2025

Questions? Contact James Rector *Publisher*

Email: publisher@leadershipjournal.com Office: 440-892-0444 Mobile: 440-662-9770



JOYFUL LEADER AWARD

NOMINATION FORM

(Please fill in all form fields and **be sure to save this file** when completed)

Before You Begin

As part of our collaborative process, your organization will have the chance to review and approve the final profile of your award winner before publication. This ensures alignment with your internal messaging and gives your team full confidence to nominate with peace of mind.

A. Nominee Information

Nominee's Name: ☐ Mr., ☐ Ms., ☐ Mrs., ☐ Dr. _____
(as it should appear in print and please check prefix that applies)

Job Title: _____

Organization Name: _____

Full Corporate Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Contact info for Nominee's
Administrative Assistant: _____

B. Nominated by:

Note: The nominator must be the primary point of contact for all editorial communications. Using a company executive as the nominator will not increase a nominee's chances of selection. He or she will be evaluated on merit alone. Please ensure that the person whose information is entered below is available to manage all communications related to the nomination and award process.

Nominator's Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Organization Name: _____

Corporate Mailing Address: _____

Office Phone Number: _____

Mobile Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Secondary Contact Name & Email: _____

Questions? Contact James Rector *Publisher*

Email: publisher@leadershipjournal.com **Office:** 440-892-0444 **Mobile:** 440-662-9770



JOYFUL LEADER AWARD

NOMINATION FORM

C. Tell Us Why You Chose this Nominee

Briefly explain why your nominee should be recognized as a 2025 Joyful Leader awardee: (200 words max.)

Provide a brief description of the nominee's leadership role. Please include highlights of your nominee's contributions and accomplishments, which may include examples of how they create a joyful and engaging workplace. You may also provide testimonials from colleagues, employees, or stakeholders. (500 words max.)

D. Final Profile Approval

Please confirm your preference regarding the final profile approval process:

- ☐ **Yes**, we would like to review and approve the final profile before publication.
- ☐ **No**, we trust the editorial process and do not require a final review.

Note: If "Yes" is selected, publication will not proceed without organizational approval.

Questions? Contact James Rector *Publisher*

Email: publisher@leadershipjournal.com **Office:** 440-892-0444 **Mobile:** 440-662-9770

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JOYFUL LEADER AWARD

NOMINATION FORM

E. Nomination Process

NOMINATION FEE: \$495:

After filling out this Nomination form be sure to save the file. Then click on the link below to go to the online form and fill it out. Near the end of the online form you will need to "Choose File" to attach this Nomination form and then submit everything. After that please be sure to go to our secure payment portal where you can submit your entry fee payment.



Please upload this document (*do not email*)
at: <https://leadershipjournal.com/joyful-nomination-upload/>



Submit \$495 application fee payment at:
<https://buy.stripe.com/cN24j6aplggj2PKdR4>

**If you need an invoice for payment please email
James Rector: publisher@leadershipjournal.com**

Submitted nomination and fee must be received by September 19, 2025

Emailed submissions will not be accepted!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Will our organization have the opportunity to review the award winner's profile before publication?**
Yes. We offer every nominating organization the chance to review and approve the final profile of their award winner before publication. We understand the importance of alignment with internal communications and public messaging. Your team remains in full control of what is shared publicly.
- Will the nomination fee be refunded if our candidate is not selected?**
Yes. Your nomination fee will be returned in full if your candidate is not selected.
- Is my organization allowed to nominate a candidate who has won a different award this year from PLJ?**
Yes. Your nominees may include a candidate or candidates who have previously won different awards from PLJ this year.
- How will my organization be notified of our nominee's acceptance?**
Confirmation that your organization's nominee has been accepted will be sent to the nominator and the award winner along with the Question & Answer Form.
- Is purchasing an advertisement in the Q4 2025 issue of PLJ required if our nominee is accepted?**
No advertising purchase is required.
- Will we be able to receive pdfs of our nominee's profile layout?**
If you wish to receive a **FREE pdf** of your nominee's layout from the Q4 magazine, please email a request to stevetothleadershipjournal.com after the issue has been launched.
- Will my organization have an opportunity to revise a profile after it appears in the Q4 2025 issue?**
If you would like to make edits or changes to your page(s) after the magazine is posted online, please email stevetothleadershipjournal.com.