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***Oregon Entrepreneurs Network Opens Nominations for 2011 OEN Tom Holce  
Entrepreneurship Award***

**April 20, 2011, Portland, Oregon** – Today the [Oregon Entrepreneurs Network \(OEN\)](#) announced that nominations have opened for the [OEN Tom Holce Entrepreneurship Awards](#). Nomination information is available on the OEN Website ([http://www.oen.org/events\\_oen\\_awards.aspx](http://www.oen.org/events_oen_awards.aspx)). Organizations and individuals based in Oregon or Southwest Washington are eligible for the awards. **The submission deadline for nominations is Wednesday, May 11th.**

The OEN Tom Holce Entrepreneurship Awards are a highly competitive process and it is a significant achievement just to be named as a finalist. In honor of that, OEN not only produces a gala celebration focusing on excellence in entrepreneurship but also the awards presented to the winners are true works of art. This high profile gala event attracts a crowd of more than 700 of Oregon and SW Washington's most influential business people. Finalists receive premium exposure leading up to, during and after the event.

**Nominations will be taken for four categories:** OEN Development Stage Company of the Year; OEN Working Capital Stage Company of the Year; OEN Growth Stage Company of the Year and the OEN Entrepreneurship Award for Individual Achievement. These categories allow competition between companies in different markets based on performance during a particular stage in the company's development.

"The OEN Tom Holce Entrepreneurship Awards honors entrepreneurs and the companies they create," said Linda Weston, OEN's president and executive director. "It's an event that recognizes the creativity, hard work, and risk taking it took to convert ideas into successful businesses that stimulate the region's economy."

The awards will be presented at the 18th annual OEN Tom Holce Entrepreneurship Awards, which will be held Wednesday, September 21st, at the Portland Hilton & Executive Towers. Nomination information is available at [www.oen.org](http://www.oen.org)

**About Oregon Entrepreneurs Network**

Founded in 1991, celebrating 20 years of service to entrepreneurs, the Oregon Entrepreneurs Network ([OEN](#)) is a 501c3 non-profit corporation and the largest



entrepreneur assistance organization in Oregon and Southwest Washington. OEN fosters the flow of entrepreneurial ideas, services, and capital to entrepreneurs and helps connect emerging Northwest businesses to growth-stimulating expertise and valuable resources.

OEN is a people-oriented network that helps cultivate, nurture and develop emerging businesses and entrepreneurs. Our network of members and breadth of services, offers business education, access to capital networks, support and contacts who can mentor and nurture startup companies' growth and development. OEN also helps small and mid-sized companies develop and implement strategies for community involvement that jointly meet the goals of the company, the passions of the employees and the needs of the community via its program, EFNW. For more information on OEN and its programs visit [www.oen.org](http://www.oen.org).

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