Finalists chosen in Ernst & Young entrepreneur contest

Forty-one finalists from 30 companies have been selected for Columbus and Central Ohio’s Year 2000 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year awards. Award recipients will be revealed June 26 at the Hyatt Regency, Columbus.

In the Commercial Service category:
- Elle Chute and Dennis Gerdes, principals, Chute Gerdes Inc., Columbus.
- Curtis Francois, president, Dent Wizard, Dublin.
- David Bianconi, president, Progressive Medical Inc., Westerville.

In the Employment Service category:
- William Hutter, president and CEO, Allied Employer Resources Inc., Columbus.
- Joseph DeCapua, president, Dawson Personnel Systems, Columbus.
- Roberta Ruch, president, Olsten Central Ohio LLC, Columbus.

In the Manufacturing category:
- Ted Davis, president, Dorcy International Inc., Columbus.
- Walter Dennis, president, HFI Inc., Columbus.
- Peter Benza, president, Oasis Corp., Columbus.

In the Real Estate Development category:
- Robert White, chairman, Daimler Group Inc., Columbus.
- Anthony Giotto, president, and John Giotto, executive vice president and chief financial officer, Giotto Companies Inc., Dublin.
- William Heifner, president, Renier Construction, Columbus.

In the Service category:
- James Frauenberg, president, and Michael Lenhart, secretary-treasurer, Buckeye Check Cashing Inc., Dublin.
- Harold Stewart Jr., president, and Timothy Stewart, vice president and sales manager, Capitol City Trailers Inc., Obetz.
- Timothy Foley, president and CEO, M-E Cos. Inc., Westerville.

In the Technology category:
- Thomas Divine, CEO and chairman, Divine Tower International Inc., Columbus.
- David Koch, president and CEO, and Kyle Bacon, vice president and chief operating officer, Fiber Network Solutions Inc., Columbus.
- Donald Lee, president and CEO, Horizons Cos., Columbus.
- Thomas Harris, John Mackesy, Patrick Brennan, and Mark Bush, partners, Harris, Mackesy & Brennan Inc., Columbus.

In the Technology Service category:
- Cliff Gallatin, president, American Systems Consulting Inc., Columbus.
- John Kratz, president and CEO, Information Control Corp., Columbus.
- Peichen Jane Lee, president, and Shuman Lau, vice president, Unicon International Inc., Columbus.

In the Supporter of Entrepreneurship category:
- Frank Henson, president and CEO, Industry and Technology Council of Central Ohio, Columbus.
- Sandra Dickinson, executive director, Ohio Foundation for Entrepreneurial Education, Columbus.

In the Emerging category:
- Tara Marling Abraham, president, Accel Inc., Worthington.
- Walter Sullivan, president and Anne Matunas, secretary-treasurer, Security Voice Inc., Columbus.
- Michael McBride, president, and Robert Molter, chief operating officer, Strategic Resource Partners, Columbus.

In the Master category:
- Francis Smith, chairman and CEO, Burgess & Niple Ltd., Columbus.
- Homer McKnight, CEO, McKnight Group, Grove City.

Award recipients will be eligible for several national Entrepreneur of the Year category awards, as well as the National Entrepreneur of the Year award.

Reservations to the awards banquet June 26 may be made by calling program manager Loretta Troutman of Ernst & Young at 614-222-3916 by June 16. The banquet ticket price is $125 a person.