

Battle of the Burger planning is in full swing! Let PCMS know if you're interested in entering a team!



The Downtown Flyer March 2017

Oklahoma Main Street Announces State Award Finalists



The Oklahoma Main Street Program announced the 2017 award finalists on Wednesday, March 1, 2017.

PCMS is proud to have made it into the Top 10 communities for a second year in a row. Our program also has 10 nominations in the top 3 in 9 different categories. It is only through the support of our community and our members that we are able to boast such accomplishments over the past year. Thank you so much for your support! See the press release from the state below.

Oklahoma Main Street Announces Award Finalists

(Oklahoma City, Okla.) - The Oklahoma Main Street Center announced today the finalists of the program's annual statewide awards competition. All finalists will be honored, and the winners announced, at the 28th annual Main Street Awards Banquet, May 9, at the Embassy Suites OKC Downtown/Medical Center Hotel.

"The Oklahoma Main Street Center Awards Banquet celebrates the communities, people and events that make the program thrive," said Buffy Hughes, Oklahoma Main Street director. "There are 21 competitive award categories representing the Main Street Four Points, and 19 different programs are in the top three of each. We are always excited to see so many projects, events and people highlighted by the local programs. It is a joyful time for all involved in Main Street."

Each award category falls under one of the "four points" in the Main Street Approach - Organization, Promotion, Economic Vitality and Design. Panels of outside judges for each point review the entries and determine the winners.

The Community of the Year Award will recognize the Main Street program that earned the most quality assurance points during the 2016 calendar year. The top 10 programs (in alphabetical order) include: Altus, Bartlesville, Duncan, Guymon, Hobart, Newkirk, Okmulgee, **Ponca City**, Prague, and Wilburton. The top program will also be announced at the banquet.

In addition, the top Main Street Program Directors will be recognized at the banquet. Those making the top three this year include Stephen Boyd, Hobart Main Street, Inc.; Melyn Johnson, Main Street Guymon Inc.; and Ed Sharrer, Kendall Whittier Main Street.

The award finalists are:

ORGANIZATION:

Premier Partner

Bartlesville - Hilton Garden Inn/Bartlesville

Okmulgee - Street Signs

Ponca City - City of Ponca City

Best Community Education/Public Awareness

Ardmore - "Your Favorite New Place" Billboard Campaign

Duncan - "This Place Matters"

Wilburton - Main Street Week Activities

Best Volunteer Development Program

Durant - Durant High School Service Learning Project

Guymon - Football Families

Hobart - Main Street Design Committee

Main Street Hero

Altus - Shannon Preston

Newkirk - Caryl Morgan

Okmulgee - Richard Larabee

Ponca City - Richard Winterrowd

Best Creative Fundraising Effort

Durant - Dancing with the Stars

Okmulgee - Big Brain Trivia Night

Ponca City - 2016 Battle of the Burger

PROMOTION:

Premier Special Event Under 1,000 Attendees

Claremore - Food Truck Thursday

Enid - Butterfly Invasion

Enid - Downtown Dogfest

Premier Special Event Over 1,000 Attendees

Collinsville - 15th Annual Hogs 'n' Hot Rods

Durant - Trick or Treat on Third Street Carnival

Hobart - 9/11: Never Forget

Best Retail Event

Durant - Dash for Cash

Ponca City - Ladies Night Out

Tahlequah - Ladies Night Out 2016

Outstanding Image Promotion

Enid - Elf on the Downtown Shelf

Enid - Shop the Square & Main Street Menu

Ponca City - The Downtown Flyer

Creative New Event

Hobart - 9/11: Never Forget

Ponca City - 2016 Battle of the Burger

Stockyards City - "Cowboys and Caboodles" Art Show and Sale

DESIGN:

Best Placemaking Project

Enid - The Trail Mural

Ponca City - City of Ponca City/Light Poles & Street Signs

Ponca City - Veterans' Plaza

Best Sustainable Design Project

Enid - Lamp Post Refurbishment

Enid - Mural Program

Ponca City - Veterans' Plaza

Best Interior Design Project

Enid - Leonardo's Children's Museum

Kendall Whittier - The Beehive Lounge

Okmulgee - Park on the Square

Best Façade Rehabilitation Under \$10,000

Claremore - Barron Law Firm

Hobart - Krieger Insurance

Newkirk - A Perfect Day

Best Façade Rehabilitation Over \$10,000

Bartlesville - Chris Dizmang - CR Anthony Building

Claremore - Main Street Tavern

Newkirk - Newkirk City Hall

Tahlequah - Wilson Building Façade Project

Best Visual Merchandising

Ada - Farm Girl Boutique

Ada - Rustic Ridge

McAlester - Harper and Gray House

Best Building/Business Branding

Durant - Bliss Boutique

Kendall Whittier - The Beehive Lounge

Newkirk - Cheeky Burgers

ECONOMIC VITALITY:

Best Adaptive Reuse Project

Claremore - Main Street Tavern

Hobart - Frisco Creek Barbeque

Newkirk - Inner Spaces

Best Business Practices

Ada -- Scryptopia

Altus - Belles & Beaux

Durant - With Bump

Best New Business

Kendall Whittier - Calaveras Mexican Grill

Okmulgee - 102 Ristorante

Stockyards City - Prairie Dust Soaps and Stuff

Business of the Year

Hobart - General Tommy Franks Leadership Institute & Museum

Newkirk - Urban Prairie Art Gallery

Ponca City - Lewis Associates Architects, Inc.

The dinner and program will begin at 6:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased from your local Main Street Program for \$45.

For a listing of Main Street programs in the state, or for more information about the Oklahoma Main Street Program, please call (405) 815-6552 or visit OKcommerce.gov/mainstreet.

2nd Annual Battle of the Burger - Seeking Teams



Ponca City Main Street invites individuals, community organizations, chefs, businesses and friends to form teams and compete in the 2nd annual Battle of the Burger! The Burger Cook-off will feature cash prizes for Best Burger in 1st - 3rd place and also a cash prize for the Best People's Choice Burger and the Best People's Choice Side Dish. We are asking each team to cook a total of 40 pounds of meat. Teams can get as creative as they'd like with burger toppings, condiments and ingredients. The event will be held Friday, June 2, with tasting from 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. and awards at 8:00 p.m. and take place in the Library Parking Lot. A \$50 team donation is required to hold your place in the cook-off. Funds raised during the Battle of the Burger will be used to further Main Street's mission of serving Ponca City and its citizens by promoting quality of life through efforts focused toward economic growth, historical preservation, cultural development and revitalization of the downtown and surrounding area. This event will be held in conjunction with the Cruzin' Grand Car Show for the second year in a row. For more info, contact Chelsea with Ponca City Main Street at 763-8082, clmcconnell@poncacitymainstreet.com, or find our event page on Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/264013010698049/>.

Local Awards Banquet

Ponca City Main Street's local awards banquet was held Friday, February 24th at Marland's Grand Home and was sponsored by the City of Ponca City. Beautiful flowers for the event were donated by Food Pyramid.

Individual honorees received a free night's stay at Osage Casinos and business honorees received \$50 towards a business improvement, in lieu

of a trophy. Honorees that evening were: Best Public Improvement - City of Ponca City, refurbished light poles and new street signs; Best Façade Improvement - Jodi Cline, Marland Building windows; Best Window Display & Signage - Whimsy; Best Revitalization Project - New Emergency Resource Agency; Business of the Year - Devinney Law Firm; New Business of the Year - The Attic Boutique; Premier Partner - Lewis Associates Architects; Main Street Hero - Richard Winterrowd; Board Member of the Year - Lori Henderson; John Smith Memorial "Spirit of Main Street" - Terron Liles; and Distinguished Service Award - Team Radio Marketing Group. Pictured to the right is Board Member of the Year and PCMS Chair Lori Henderson presenting the Business of the Year award to Jim Devinney with Devinney Law Firm.



PCMS Seeking Letters of Support

Main Street is working on applying for the Cultural District Development Grant through the Oklahoma Arts Council. If awarded, this grant will not only help us bring more arts and culture downtown, but will also help us brand downtown and make it more of a destination within our community and our state. A few things about the project:

First, what is a Cultural District? A cultural district is a geographic area that has a concentration of cultural facilities, activities and assets. It is an area that is easily identifiable to visitors and residents and serves as a center of cultural, artistic and economic activity. A cultural district may contain galleries, live performance venues, theaters, artist studios, museums, arts centers, arts schools, and public art pieces. A cultural district may also contain businesses like restaurants, banks or parks whose primary purpose is not arts, but that regularly make their spaces available to artists or create opportunities for the public to encounter the arts.

This district, once formed, will help downtown Ponca City to:

- * attract artists, creative entrepreneurs and cultural enterprises to communities
- * encourage economic development
- * foster local cultural development
- * provide a focal point for celebrating and strengthening local cultural identity

Additionally, cultural districts:

- * attract tourists
- * help preserve and reuse historic buildings
- * enhance the image and visibility of a place
- * foster a supportive environment for arts and culture

We would like to ask that you please send a signed letter of support; a template is available upon request. Cultural District Development Grants of up to \$7,500 per year are available to successful applicants. Applicants may participate in the program for up to five years and receive a maximum of \$25,000 in funding. We ask for letters of support to be turned in no later than the end of March. Letters can be emailed to clmconnell@poncacitymainstreet.com

Applications must demonstrate support from community stakeholders including cultural organizations, city/county officials, businesses, artists and educators, so your letter of support is vital to our success!

Loyalty Programs

Does your business have a loyalty program? Check out [this article on 5 steps to designing and implementing one](#). Studies show that engaged customers buy 90% more frequently and spend 60% more per transaction! Make sure to check out the bottom of the page where important do's and don't's are listed.



[Visit our website!](#)

Chelsea McConnell
Ponca City Main Street
clmccconnell@poncacitymainstreet.com
(580) 763-8082

STAY CONNECTED:

