

Business People: Tech council honors finalists

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The [Connecticut Technology Council's Women of Innovation planning committee](#) announced the finalists for the sixth annual Women of Innovation awards program. The program recognizes women in the work force and students in Connecticut who are innovators, role models and leaders in their technology professions or fields of study.

Winners will be announced at the awards dinner at the [Aqua Turf Club](#) in Southington on Jan. 20.

Finalists from the region by category include:

- Collegian Innovation and Leadership: Eliza

McNitt of Greenwich, student at [New York University's Tisch School of the Arts](#); and Ridgefield resident [Vanessa Rubano](#), graduate student at [Columbia University](#).

- Community Innovation and Leadership: [Seema Winsor](#), principal engineer at Stamford-based [Pitney Bowes](#).

- Entrepreneurial Innovation and Leadership: [Kelly Conners](#), president of KC Healthcare Communications LLC in Norwalk; and [Teresa Piliouras](#), president of [Albright Associates Inc.](#) in Weston.

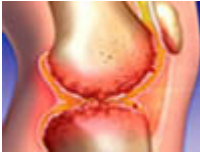
- Large Business Innovation and Leadership: [Susan DiMascio](#), program director of advanced technology development at Danbury-based [ATMI Inc.](#); [Sheryl Hildner](#), information technology director at [GE Capital Americas](#) in Danbury; [Susan Johnston](#), director of customer service in information technology at Norwalk-based [Priceline.com Inc.](#); and [Christine Marsh](#), vice president in business analysis at [Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals Inc.](#) in Ridgefield.

- Research Innovation and Leadership: [Jeanne Magram](#), vice president of immunology and inflammation at [Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals Inc.](#), Ridgefield; and [Diana Reeves](#), principal scientist at [Boehringer Ingelheim](#) in Ridgefield.


- Small Business Innovation and Leadership: [Theresa McSpedon](#), vice president in services at [Protegrity Corp.](#) in Stamford.

- Youth Innovation and Leadership: Jenny Lu of [Pomperaug High School](#) in Southbury.


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Finalists were nominated by their peers and selected based on their professional experience, history of innovation, ability to think creatively and solve problems and demonstration of leadership. Students were judged on inventiveness and accomplishment in science and technology and academic achievement.

-- [Richard Lee](#)

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