



Astyra Corporation Named as Finalist in University of Virginia's 2nd Annual Tayloe Murphy Resilience Awards Competition

Aug. 9, 2011

Astyra Corporation, a technology consulting and staffing firm, is proud to announce it has been selected as a finalist in a University of Virginia competition that highlights and promotes the most resilient businesses in economically-challenged parts of the Commonwealth.

“Sam and I have been in business for 20 years; 6 with our first business and 14 with Astyra. We have worked tirelessly building this company, and with the support of friends, family, and the business community, we continue to fight the good fight,” said Ken Ampy, CEO and cofounder of Astyra Corporation. “Resilient is certainly a word that applies to our firm. And recognition from the Tayloe Murphy Center at the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia is an tremendous honor,” remarked Sam Young, President and cofounder. Ampy and Young were college roommates.

Astyra Corporation is one of 14 finalists from among 21 semi-finalists and 88 total businesses statewide to enter this year's Tayloe Murphy Resilience Awards competition, which honors healthy entrepreneurial-based businesses in areas facing high unemployment, high poverty and low entrepreneurial activity.

The company will now compete to be one of five winners. Winners will be announced Wednesday, Sept. 7, at a dinner, reception and awards presentation in the Dome Room of the University of Virginia's historic Rotunda where Astyra executives will meet with state and local officials, economic development professionals, and business leaders.

“The goal of the Resilience Awards is to bring well-deserved attention to highly successful businesses in parts of Virginia that some might unwisely overlook,” commented Greg Fairchild, Executive Director of the Tayloe Murphy Center. “These finalists demonstrate the strength of Virginia's main street businesses, even in the face of significant economic obstacles. With average annual profit growth rates of 42% and average annual employment growth rates of 20%, in areas where the average company is actually declining, these firms embody resilience.”

To help spur economic growth and entrepreneurial efforts in areas of the Commonwealth facing particularly difficult economic challenges, the Tayloe Murphy Resilience Award supports winners through ongoing media coverage, opportunities to engage key business and government leaders and enrollment in a week-long [Executive Education course](#) at Darden valued at \$8,000–\$12,000.



Astyra extends a warm congratulations to all the Resilience Awards finalists, including:

- A Bowl of Good Cafe, Inc., Harrisonburg
- Astyra Corporation, Richmond
- Blue Crab Bay Co./Bay Beyond Inc., Melfa
- Blue Talon Bistro, Williamsburg
- Chateau Morrisette, Inc., Floyd
- GearClean, Inc., Winchester
- Highground Services, Inc., Franklin
- L & R Precision Tooling Inc., Lynchburg
- Lindstrand USA, Inc., South Boston
- MountainRose Vineyards, Inc., Wise
- Office Plus Business Centre, Danville
- Southwest Virginia Veterinary Services, Lebanon
- Thomas A. Johnson Furniture Company, Lynchburg
- Todos Supermarket, Woodbridge

The Tayloe Murphy Resilience Awards are presented in part with sponsorship from *Virginia Business*.

To learn more or to request a press pass for the Sept. 7 awards ceremony, please contact Olin Ericksen at ericksen@ivygroup.com or 434-979-2678 and visit the [Tayloe Murphy Center website](#).