



## WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF CHAMBER EXECUTIVES

### Rusty Hammer Memorial Scholarship Award

The Russell J. “Rusty” Hammer Memorial Scholarship Award has been established by the Western Association of Chamber Executives to annually recognize a chamber chief executive who best exemplifies excellence and professionalism and is deemed to have the potential to be a future chamber industry leader.

The award is given in recognition of Russell J. “Rusty” Hammer, who was named W.A.C.E. Executive of the Year in 2002 and served as Chairman of the Board of the association in 2003. Rusty, who served as CEO of the Sacramento Metro and Los Angeles Area Chambers of Commerce, sadly had his life and career cut short in 2008 after a several-year battle with leukemia.

Because of his interest in the Academy program and furthering the professionalism of chamber of commerce executives, W.A.C.E. has decided to link the Russell J. “Rusty” Hammer Award with the program by awarding the recipient a full-tuition 3rd year Academy scholarship.

To qualify for the Rusty Hammer Memorial Scholarship Award, applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Must be a full-time chief executive of a chamber of commerce.
2. Must be a W.A.C.E. member in good standing.
3. Must have successfully completed the 2nd year program of Academy.
4. Must submit an application on the standard form provided by W.A.C.E.
5. Must attend the annual W.A.C.E. conference and, if selected as a finalist, be available for a Zoom interview with the selection committee.
6. Upon receiving the award, must agree to enroll in 3rd year Academy, which will be held in August 2023

Application must be received no later than **November 10, 2022** to: Dave Kilby, W.A.C.E., P.O. Box 1736, Sacramento, CA, 95812 or via email to [dave.kilby@calchamber.com](mailto:dave.kilby@calchamber.com).

#### Previous Recipients\*

Anne Glasscock  
Glenn Morris  
Jeremy Harris  
Bill Allen  
Mark Turner  
Gina Fitzpatrick  
Susan Wan-Ross  
Zeb Welborn

Who's Next?

\*still active in chamber work



WESTERN ASSOCIATION  
OF CHAMBER EXECUTIVES

## Russell J. "Rusty" Hammer Memorial Scholarship Award

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_
2. Title \_\_\_\_\_
3. Chamber \_\_\_\_\_
4. Length of time in chamber work \_\_\_\_\_
5. Length of time in present position \_\_\_\_\_
6. Name, address and phone number of your chamber's chief elected volunteer  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Attach resume outlining educational background and career experience.
8. Answer the following on a separate sheet of paper (maximum 100 words per answer):
  - a. How did you get into the chamber business?
  - b. What have you gained in your first two years of Academy?
  - c. What are your two or three most significant recent accomplishments at your chamber?
  - d. Please respond with your thoughts that this award is given to the person who exemplifies the qualities of Rusty Hammer and is deemed a future chamber industry leader.
9. Attach reference letters from your Board Chair/President and an executive from another chamber.
  1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Application must be received no later than **November 10, 2022**.

Return forms to: **W.A.C.E.**  
**Hammer Award**  
P.O. Box 1736  
Sacramento, CA 95812-1736