



Nationwide

15 April 2021

Simply Good Business - Nationwide recognized for commitment to diversity

Businesses in central Ohio are doing more than ever to promote diversity in the workplace. *Columbus Business First* recognized several [companies](#) and [community leaders](#) during its 2021 Diversity in Business virtual celebration on Thursday.

Nationwide Chief Diversity Officer [Angela Bretz](#) was among 6 individuals recognized for championing diversity in their organizations. With the company for more than 30 years, Bretz oversees the development, implementation and operation of Nationwide's robust DEI programming. She was recognized for elevating the company's inclusive culture, which is widely recognized as industry-leading.

"Nationwide believes supporting diversity, equity and inclusion is simply good business," said Bretz. "A culture of diversity, equity and inclusion drives associate success which drives business success for the company and for the community."

Along with the individual recognition of Bretz, Nationwide was also recognized as an Outstanding Diversity Champion Organization.

Business First Editor in Chief Doug Buchanan says interest in the Diversity in Business Awards has never been higher, with a record number of nominations submitted this year.

"Even in that larger field, our judges determined that Nationwide, as an organization, and Angela Bretz in the individual category, were both worthy of recognition," Buchanan said. "I think that speaks to the leadership Nationwide has shown during this difficult year of social justice protests and of course the pandemic. The company's history of activism in this space prior to the pandemic certainly helped it forge such an effective response."

Among others recognized for their work including Nancy Tidwell, nominated by Nationwide Realty Investors. Tidwell received a Lifetime Recognition Award for her work promoting diversity and inclusion within the central Ohio commercial construction community. Her strong leadership has resulted in minority contracts totaling millions of dollars throughout central Ohio.

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- [Promoting workplace diversity by being an ally](#) (August 25, 2020)
- [Unlocking solutions to the homeownership gap](#) (July 22, 2020)
- [Planting seeds for healthier neighborhoods](#) (July 17, 2020)
- [Nationwide adding investments to fight racism](#) (June 12, 2020)
- [Working to End Racism](#) (June 12, 2020)

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