



# 2023 Ho'okela Awards Guidelines & Rules

## Award Categories:

- **RETAIL TEAM OF THE YEAR** that is inclusive of management & non-management
- **RETAIL COMMUNITY TEAM OF THE YEAR** that is inclusive of management & non-management
- **NON-RETAILER COMMUNITY TEAM OF THE YEAR** that is inclusive of management & non-management
- **RETAIL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR** (Nominations are ONLY considered from those nominated directly by the Retail Merchants of Hawaii's Board of Directors.)
- **RETAILER OF THE YEAR** (Nominations are ONLY considered from those nominated directly by the Retail Merchants of Hawaii's Board of Directors.)
- **CHAIRPERSON'S AWARD** (Nominations are ONLY considered from those nominated directly by the Retail Merchants of Hawaii's Board of Directors.)

## Who is Eligible:

- Must be a member in good standing with the Retail Merchants of Hawaii
- All Retail Operations with a physical presence in the State of Hawaii who have been in operation at least 1 year.
- All Retail Employees directly employed by the company and within the State of Hawaii.
- MUST be a direct employee of the store or company and not a contract or outsourced employee.
- All nominees who earn the respect of their peers.
- All nominees who contribute to the success and vitality of the retail industry and who are an integral part of the communities in which they do business.
- Other restrictions may apply.

## Who Can Nominate:

- **Any person, company or organization may submit nominations** by completing the nomination form & questionnaire and indicate the appropriate category. Need not be an RMH member to nominate
- All submitted materials will become the property of RMH for promotional purposes and will not be returned.

## Selection of Winners:

- All nominees will be recognized and one winner in each category will be announced at the Retail Merchants of Hawaii's Annual General Membership Meeting & **Ho'okela Awards Luncheon** on October 25, 2023 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village.

## Notification:

- We reserve the right to move a nominee to a different category if their nomination fits the criteria better. We will notify you if this occurs.
- **ALL nominees** (and their nominators) from each of the other categories will be notified by Retail Merchants of Hawaii.

## Deadline:

- All Ho'okela nominations must be physically received in the RMH office by 3:00 p.m. OR postmarked no later than **September 8, 2023. (NO EXTENSIONS)**
- Please submit completed forms to:



Retail Merchants of Hawaii's  
Ho'okela Awards  
3610 Waialae Ave  
Honolulu, HI 96816



[tyamaki@rmhawaii.org](mailto:tyamaki@rmhawaii.org)

## Judging:

- Judging will be done by those who do **NOT** have a direct connection to those who are nominated. We want to ensure that the judging is fair and independent.

## Questions:

: (808) 592-4200 **OR**  Email: [tyamaki@rmhawaii.org](mailto:tyamaki@rmhawaii.org)



# 2023 Ho'okela Awards Categories

*All Nominees must be a RMH Member in good standing*

*Be very specific on your write-ups by citing as many detailed examples as possible on why your nomination is the best. Remember: Our judges do not personally know your nominee, so please don't assume anything. In addition, the write-ups will be compared to all others in that category.*

## Categories Nominated and Chosen by the RMH Board of Directors

### ➤ Retail Business of the Year – State of Hawaii

- Honors THE outstanding storefront retail company has a single or multiple locations.
- **Nominations are ONLY considered from those nominated directly by the Retail Merchants of Hawaii's Board of Directors.**

### ➤ Retailer of the Year

- Honors an outstanding person who has the principal responsibility of owning and/or operating a successful retail business, is a strong supporter of the retail industry and the community.
- **Nominations are ONLY considered from those nominated directly by the Retail Merchants of Hawaii's Board of Directors.**

### ➤ Chairperson's Award

- Honors an outstanding person or company who may or may not be a Retail Merchants of Hawaii member who provides a product or service to the retail industry, continues to champion of the retail industry in Hawaii and/or is a strong supporter of the industry and community.
- **Nominations are ONLY considered from those nominated directly by the Retail Merchants of Hawaii's Board of Directors.**

## Team of the Year Categories

*Honors outstanding team made up of management and non-management employees in the State of Hawaii who exemplifies creativity and innovative spirit that contributes to the success of a retail business and industry in Hawaii and is a strong supporter of the community.*

### ➤ Retail Team of the Year That is Inclusive of Management & Non-Management

- Honors an outstanding retail team that has gone above and beyond their job responsibilities, and/or provides outstanding and unusual service to the company, and/or to the customers. Some examples include cultivating innovative or creative products/services; showing outstanding leadership qualities; overcoming obstacles; consistently adding to the customer experience; meeting special or unique needs of customers; and/or performing heroic deeds.

### ➤ Retail Community Team of The Year That is Inclusive of Management & Non-Management

- Honors an outstanding retail team that has gone above and beyond their job responsibilities, and/or provides outstanding and unusual service to the community. Some examples include cultivating innovative or creative products/services; showing outstanding leadership qualities; overcoming obstacles; meeting special or unique needs of the community; and/or performing heroic deeds.

### ➤ Non-Retailer Community Team of The Year That is Inclusive of Management & Non-Management

- Honors an outstanding non-retail team that has gone above and beyond their job responsibilities, and/or provides outstanding and unusual service to the community during the pandemic and beyond. Some examples include cultivating innovative or creative products/services; showing outstanding leadership qualities; overcoming obstacles; meeting special or unique needs of the community; and/or performing heroic deeds.