

For Immediate Release

November 15, 2024

First Women's Bank is Honored as a Winner of 23rd annual Chicago Innovation Awards

Chicago, IL - First Women's Bank, the nation's only bank with a strategic focus on supporting the women's economy and closing the gender lending gap, has been named one of the winners of the 23rd annual Chicago Innovation Awards.

The winners were announced at this year's event held on Thursday, November 14th at the UIC Forum. The annual Chicago Innovation Awards is the Chicago region's foremost recognition of the most innovative new products or services brought to market each year.

"The Chicago region continues to be a global leader in innovation," said Tom Kuczmariski, co-founder with Chicago journalist Dan Miller of the awards. "The 2024 winners are solving unmet needs and making a difference in healthcare, finance, the environment, artificial intelligence, education, consumer products, energy, manufacturing, social services, economic development, food, and government.

"We are so honored to be recognized for the Bank's pivotal role in addressing critical gaps within the women's economy," said Marianne Markowitz, CEO of First Women's Bank. "It's this type of recognition, and organizations like Chicago Innovation, that elevate our mission of closing the gender lending gap."

The winning organizations receive a variety of honors including the opportunity to ring the Nasdaq Bell in New York City.

"350 organizations nominated for this year's awards," said Luke Tanen, President and CEO of Chicago Innovation. "As a group, these nominees are responsible for generating over \$4.2 billion in new revenues and creating nearly 6,000 jobs. The winners represent the best from this very impressive group."

The complete list of this year's Chicago Innovation Award winners can be found at www.chicagoinnovation.com.

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Contact: First Women's Bank: Molly Morter, mmorter@firstwomens.bank, 312-498-5312

Chicago Innovation: Luke Tanen, luke@chicagoinnovation.com, 312-988-1516