

Finalists announced for 9th annual Tech Awards

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The Charlottesville region's technology and entrepreneurship advocacy organization announced Monday the finalists for its ninth annual Tech Awards.

The Virginia Piedmont Technology Council/Charlottesville Venture Group selected the finalists for noteworthy contributions to the marketplace and community through the creation, commercialization or application of technology.

For the Rocket Award, which is presented to a tech-based firm that has moved with noteworthy speed from concept to commercialization, the three finalists are ADI Engineering, OpenQ and **PocketMed**.

The Spotlight Award goes to a tech firm or individual who has brought attention to the region as a technology hub. The finalists are Frontline Test Equipment, NetForecast and SNL Financial.

The Breakthrough Award is given to a tech-based enterprise for achieving a remarkable breakthrough or quantum advance. The Breakthrough finalists are Altenergy Inc., DiaKine Therapeutics and Diffusion Pharmaceuticals.

The Community Award goes to a tech-based organization or individual who has improved the region's quality of life through community involvement. The finalists are Sean Tubbs, Gary Henry and Northrop Grumman/Sperry Marine.

VPTC+CVG also recognizes local educators who have sought to excite students about technology. The finalists for the Red Apple Award are Ann Deane, Covenant School; Colleen Branch, Albemarle High School; Larry G. Richards, University of Virginia engineering department; and Paula White, Crozet Elementary School.

Nearly 300 business, government and technology professionals from Central Virginia are expected to attend the awards gala, which will be held June 6 at Farmington Country Club. For more information, go to www.vptc-cvg.org.