

Area tech figures honored

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Chicago's information technology sector selected its biggest movers and shakers for 2001.

The honorees were announced before some 600 attendees at the quarterly event Tuesday of BIGFrontier, a year-old technology networking association, at Circus nightclub on Chicago's North Side.

The honorees were:

- * BIGgest community asset: Linda Darragh, Springboard, a venue for presentation of business plans to potential financiers.
- * BIGgest mover and shaker: Shaye Mandle, head of the Illinois Coalition, a public/private technology advocacy group.
- * BIGgest effervescent personality: Leslie Beller, i.c. Stars, an Internet-based program for inner city young adults.
- * BIGgest coolest boss: Chris Gladwin, FullAudio, a digital music subscription and delivery service.
- * BIGgest potentially world-changing technology: Cognitor, a business software application.
- * BIGgest eyeball-catching Web site: Perceptual Robotics
- * BIGgest new business idea: Vibes Media.
- * BIGgest butt-kicking company: Jellyvision, an interactive learning venture.

Steve Lundin, executive director of BIGFrontier, said, "I believe that this is the only awards program that celebrates nominees selected by the technology community and voted on by the technology community. Like our event, this is truly an acknowledgement of the people, ideas and companies that have risen up and seized the attention and imagination of our public."

BIGFrontier was established in April 2000 and is the Midwest's largest technology networking event.

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