



Nominee: Anthony Mercury

AutoShop Solutions
Sales Director
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/anthony-mercury-759061b/>

YANG Member YES
Nominated By: Brian Luke

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Tony started in the auto industry as a sales rep for AutoShop Solutions, allowing him to learn what it takes for a shop to be successful. His dedication allowed him to work his way up to VP of Revenue within the company. In this role, Tony is a unique and indispensable champion of independently owned auto repair shops. He is always finding innovative ways to help shops grow to their potential. His passion has allowed him to forge partnerships and friendships with leaders in the industry and to be accepted as an industry speaker at auto conferences throughout the country including: Vision, ASTE and HireCon22. Tony cares deeply about his employees and the shops that he works with, viewing their success as his own. When Tony hired me he said, "People don't leave jobs, they leave managers." For me, I have stayed with ASi in order to stay with Tony. My coworkers and I have seen our professional lives flourish due to his personal touch and mentorship and we know that he deserves this award.

Industry Involvement:

No Response.

Additional Consideration: Tony is an inclusive, passionate and dedicated professional in the auto industry, opening avenues for others and pushing them to their full potential.



Nominee: Brian Lesiewicz

NGK Spark Plugs USA
General Manager - Sales & Marketing
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/brian-c-lesiewicz-5868014/>

YANG Member YES

Nominated By: Cal Coburn, MAAP

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Please see attached document. As the last part of the document states, it is because of Brian's accomplishments, industry dedication and involvement and his commitment and leadership in our industry that I want to nominate him for the Four for the Future Impact Award.

Industry Involvement:

AutoCare - current YANG member, also shadowed in 2021 with the Market Intelligence Committee. AASA - inaugural 2014 member of Emerging Leaders (now MiX) council. MiX Executive Committee member from 2017-2021, of which 2020-21 as Chair. Part of inaugural board for new Supply Chain & Operations Forum. University of Aftermarket Foundation Coffee Club member.

Nominee: Brittani McClain

Auto-Wares Group of Companies

Director of Customer Service

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/brittanimcclain/>

YANG Member YES

Nominated By: John R. Washbish



Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Brittani McClain, director of customer service at Auto-Wares Group of Companies, has been in the aftermarket for eight years. She has earned steady promotions through Auto-Wares and has been nominated internally to chair multiple committees, including the Auto-Wares Tech Expo Committee which organizes an event that touches more than 3,500 people. In her current role, she monitors the support needs of customers and employees. She also led the COVID response efforts at Auto-Wares via their emergency response team.

Industry Involvement:

No Response.

Nominee: Chris Allebach

Dorman Products

Mechanical Design Team Lead (Engineering)

none

YANG Member No

Nominated By: Anisa Sadat

autocare[®]
ASSOCIATION



Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Reduced development time and improved speed to market through:

Rapid prototyping ensure proper fits of ever increasing complex parts with tighter tolerances

Fabrication time of test fixtures reduced by more than 50% through additive manufacturing

Responsible for developing and training members of the Mechanical Design Team on best practices for design for additive manufacturing, as well as driving awareness of additive manufacturing capabilities to the rest of the product engineering department thru regular training sessions and knowledge sharing

Has helped to reduce waste and improve core utilization with solutions utilizing additive manufacturing

Continues to educate himself and the team on industry trends to ensure the Dorman is at pace or surpassing the OEMs and be an Aftermarket Leader in the adoption and optimization of Additive Manufacturing

Industry Involvement:

Serves as a member of the academic advisement committee for Penn College of Technology to give insight to the future workforce on industry trends, as well as network and recruit for future talent for Dorman Design and Engineering



Nominee: Daniel McGuire

Dorman Products
Director of Supply Chain
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/daniel-mcguire-8312b634/>

YANG Member No
Nominated By: Anisa Sadat

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Please reach out to the candidate for more information. Thank you!

Dan McGuire Dan is the Director of Supply Chain leading the supply chain function for the CHS, RMN, RTL, INN, and BDY SBU's. Dan is also responsible for optimizing the material planning processes to improvement department efficiencies and drive sustainable improvements in customer fill rate and inventory performance across all SBU's. Prior to this role, Dan was the Supply Chain for the Chassis SBU were he supported the product line's rapid growth through strong supply chain execution of many key programs, including: the DLG, CQ Blue, and NAPA Chassis launches and the MAS integration. Dan completed his BS Degree at Shippensburg University and MBA at the University of Scranton. Previous Employer, multiple progressive supply chain positions for Manitowoc Cranes.

Industry Involvement:

No Response.



Nominee: Derek Emery

SKF USA

Sales Manager

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/derek-emery-88056514/>

YANG Member YES

Nominated By: Derek Emery

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

It would be such an honor to be a candidate for the Impact Award. Throughout my career in this industry, I have been able to develop and exceed in multiple roles with the organizations that I have worked for. Knowing and understanding the importance of networking has helped in my career and I credit YANG for helping with that.

Industry Involvement:

I have been involved in YANG and been to multiple events. I was able to present at one of the YANG Leadership conferences. In my work history with SFA Companies, Dana Inc and SKF USA, I have been promoted to multiple different leadership positions and help develop my teammates as well as direct reports.

Additional Consideration: I have been involved in the auto industry for over 15 years in many different leadership roles throughout my career. My passion has always been to continue to better myself in knowledge, service to others and bringing value to the organizations that I have worked for. Examples include helping cultivate mentorships inside the company to having volunteered for the American Corporate Partners for Veterans. I will continue to be a mover and shaker inside the industry.

Nominee: Ellison Lawhead

AutoZone

Senior Category Manager

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/elle-lawhead-b2356924/>

YANG Member No

Nominated By: Mark Finestone



Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Elle is a 6-year AutoZoner and has, in a short amount of time, had a large impact on our business. Elle started as an Assistant Category Manager, she worked hard to develop herself by immersing in the Category Management process. As an Assistant, Elle worked on and presented several Category Updates that contributed to sales / profit growth. Elle was promoted to Commercial Category Manager and was highly involved in our Brake business. She worked hard to partner with our Commercial Sales team to develop promotions that were relevant to our shops. She also partnered with our Suppliers and DIY Category Managers to improve our parts coverage to make sure we could satisfy our customer's needs. See document for more

Industry Involvement:

Elle is also an active industry volunteer, currently serves as co-chair of Women in Auto Care is in succession to be a future Chair. Within AutoZone, Elle has been active in AZWIN (AutoZone's Women Initiative) and serves as a core team member and Community Champion. Previously, Elle was involved in the Girl Scouts and has helped to organize an event to train future DIYers and introduce young girls to career opportunities in the Aftermarket



Nominee: Ellison Lawhead

AutoZone
Senior Category Manager
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/elle-lawhead-b2356924/>

YANG Member No

Nominated By: Tammy Tecklenburg

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Elle Lawhead is a Senior Category Manager with an extensive background in sales, category management, and merchandising, and consumer buying behaviors. She is a 6-year AutoZoner, and only employee to ever hold single largest Commercial Category (Brake systems) and single largest DIY/DAP category (Batteries). She has held over 19 categories within AutoZone's DIY and Commercial businesses and is the first female to ever oversee Batteries. Elle is a force internally at AutoZone, serving and building various business resource groups, and within her community through her leadership with the Girl Scouts. She serves our industry through her role as co-chair, Women in Auto Care, University of the Aftermarket, and mentor/role model for so many young women and men. Elle is a rock star and someone to keep on our radar for many years to come!

Industry Involvement:

AZ WIN Core Team Member & Community Champion, current. Events team member responsible for development and launch of AZ WIN International Women's Week 2012. Presented Keynote AZ Winspiration 3/19/21. Women in Auto Care - Vice Chair, current. Women in Auto Care - Executive Committee Member, January 2021-January 2022. Sponsorship Co-chair responsible for growing scholarship funding and support for women interested in careers in automotive. Presented Keynote at WiAC mentoring event 2/11/21. Presented Mentoring keynote and Q&A at WiAC conference 2/21/21. Mentor for Kristina VanMeter and Savannah Sprague, current. The University of the Aftermarket Scholarship program champion, current. Responsible for reviewing and rewarding scholarships for both Male and Female applicants in the 2020-2022 trade school year Women in Auto Care Champion & Mentor, current. Scholarship Team member responsible for rewarding 2019-2020 automotive scholarships for Females. New Member champion responsible for contacting and hosting the New Attendee Meet & Greet at the 2020 Winter Conference. 2017-2019, 2022 G.I.R.L. Event team lead responsible for annual event hosted by the Girl Scouts of the Midsouth.

Nominee: Emily DeStefano

Dorman Products

Director of Customer Experience

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/emily-destefano-755a7235/>

YANG Member No

Nominated By: Anisa Sadat

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Emily is a progressive leader as Director of Customer Experience at Dorman Products who has led the organization through the challenges stemming from the pandemic and global supply chain crisis. She has leveraged her analytics background to develop routine service outlooks for our customers using real time data and data visualization tools to effectively communication with customers. Her honest, transparent communications helped our customers navigate through the turbulent business circumstances of the last two years.

Industry Involvement:

No Response.

Nominee: **Fernanda de Lucca**

Dayco North America
Senior Manager for Commercial Excellence &
Customers and Strategy

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/fernandagiacon/>

YANG Member No

Nominated By: Fernanda de Lucca

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

I have been achieved remarkable results leading the creation and engagement of the Aftermarket community of sellers and mechanics. ZF has programs in South America with more than 28k mechanics/salesman registered, +3,5 million views (100 views per hour), online trainings with +140k certificates issued for mechanics. The programs also give voice to the mechanics and salesmen, and support for everyone 24/7 in the many different regions of Brazil. This engaged community gives the opportunity to go to the next steps of a connected new ecosystem. Check the content at: www.amigobomdepeca.com.br and the profiles at Facebook, Instagram and Youtube @amigobomdepeca Also, a children program has been created to bring the automotive world for children, to call the attention of boys and girls for technology and mobility including every gender, social class, etc. and sharing educational concepts, traffic facts and figures that are so important in a country that has high number of vehicles crash.

Industry Involvement:

No Response.

Additional Consideration: Because of the great impact inside and outside ZF Aftermarket. The activities I am leading has been awarded by ZF, by local Institutions and are "contaminating" other regions in the company.



Nominee: Grace Hovis

Hovis Truck & Auto Supply
Marketing and Training Director

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/grace-hovis/>

YANG Member YES

Nominated By: Larry Pavey

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Dedicated young person who is very involved in the industry at a young age. Grace is working to make a difference in many ways including advocacy and participation and is the epitome of what this award is all about. Grace plays a prominent role in her family business and supports/promotes training along with other marketing and communications tasks. She is heavily involved in YANG and has been a participant in Capital Hill visits and advocacy.

Industry Involvement:

In addition to her roles with Hovis Auto & Truck Supply, Grace has taken an interest in industry involvement, currently serving on the Auto Care Association's Education Committee. She has attended multiple industry events such as Fall Leadership Days in 2019 as well as AWDA/AAPEX multiple times. She is a current YANG Member, ACPAC contributor and has taken an interest in Auto Care Advocacy having gone on the hill at Fall Leadership days in 2019 as well as having met with Second Lady Karen Pence in 2020. Grace also promoted the industry through involvement in a documentary on distribution. She is involved at an incredible level for a young person.

Additional Consideration: Grace Hovis is the Marketing and Training Director for Hovis Auto & Truck Supply, Inc. a family owned and operated chain of auto parts stores which is run by her father and uncle, Cliff and Curt Hovis. Grace holds responsibility for all company marketing initiatives including advertising, promotions, customer event planning, supporting sales staff and sponsorships as well as training initiatives such as scheduling and executing industry training courses for Hovis customers and employees through the Hovis Technical Training Center. The HTTC is a 10,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility that was opened in 2012 and since that time has trained over 6,600 paint, automotive and heavy-duty technicians. Since coming into the business, Grace has been active in taking employee and customer training initiatives to digital platforms in an effort to adapt to the state of the business environment.

In addition to her roles with Hovis Auto & Truck Supply, Grace has taken an interest in industry involvement, currently serving on the Auto Care Association's Education Committee. She has attended multiple industry events such as Fall Leadership Days in 2019 as well as AWDA/AAPEX multiple times. She is a current YANG Member, ACPAC contributor and has taken an interest in Auto Care Advocacy having gone on the hill at Fall Leadership days in 2019 as well as having met with Second Lady Karen Pence in 2020.

Grace graduated from Grove City College in 2019 with a bachelor's degree in Entrepreneurship. Throughout her time at Grove City, Grace was highly involved in multiple extracurricular activities. Grace spent 3 years serving on Orientation Board, a ministry of 100 upperclassman students charged with moving the freshman class into school and acclimating them to campus. For two of those years, she ran her own committee of 20, as a member of Orientation Board's Executive Team. She was a member of the Theta Alpha Pi sorority and participated in a college led alumni relations committee, called Crimson and White. Grace served as a representative, Vice President and President of the Panhellenic Council which oversaw women's Greek life on campus. She was also a teaching assistant for Grove City's Corporate Healthcare and Innovation class for 2 years. This was a class in which students worked with upper-level executives from Mylan Labs (generic pharmaceutical company) to develop ideas involving technological innovation that paired with Mylan drugs. In 2019, at the end of her senior year, Grace won the college's Wolverine Venture Battle (business plan competition) in which she secured almost \$7,000 to start her business venture. Post college, Grace has returned to campus numerous times to guest speak for various classes with her father, as well as to serve as a judge for the Center of Entrepreneurship and Innovation's Business Planning class.

As a part of the third generation to enter the family business, Grace is enthusiastic and driven to help the company expand and grow into the future. From a young age, her father Cliff had her involved at a small level, occasionally pushing a broom in the warehouse or helping out at a company event. From there she went on to work in the warehouse in high school as well as spend a summer working on the paint counter, mixing custom paint, filling orders and learning store procedure. In addition to that, she spent a good portion of time shadowing her father, the company's previous marketing directors and numerous salesmen. Growing up, Grace also had the opportunity to attend multiple Federated Auto Parts and Automotive Parts Services Group (APSG) meetings. She is passionate about this business and sees everyday as a blessing to be able to work with family. She recognizes the great opportunity that the Auto Care Industry provides for its members and looks forward to further participation in the future.

Nominee: Jerry Reeves

Dayco North America
Product Manager

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jerrywreeves/>

YANG Member YES

Nominated By: Sativa Ross

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Outside of being a passionate automotive and motorsports enthusiast, on the job Jerry's a master at ideating fresh product and vehicle enhancements and ensuring that metrics-driven protocols are aligned with customer needs. His collaborative, 'one team' cross-functional approach makes him an absolute stand-out and someone others look forward to working alongside. An all around team player, he's always willing to help out, pitch in or lead projects, and he's been an incredible asset when it comes to developing new products that move the needle for customers.

Jerry is a strong technical leader with almost two decades of program management experience and multiple patents. He's led product engineering, design, R&D, materials and laboratory teams as well as managed OEM, OES and aftermarket product launches. He's also adept at identifying, quantifying and managing unique new business opportunities. Even as a kid, Jerry had a passion for anything with wheels – and, as he grew older this led to him earning a degree in mechanical engineering from Kettering University. As a serious motorsports enthusiast and 'car guy', he also became state certified in front-end, suspension and steering systems, engine tune up and performance, engine repair, brakes and braking systems

Industry Involvement:

Jerry regularly attends key industry events such as AAPEX, AIMExpo, HDAW and PRI, and actively engages with customers in order to gain important voice of the customer (VOC) insights for continuous improvement. Until recently, he was a 15 year member of SAE, is an avid motorcycle road racer and travels the country attending motorsports/racing events.

Additional Consideration: Outside of being an all around industry enthusiast and active participant, he's been a pro motorcycle road racer for more than a decade. Jerry has had multiple wins and podium finishes – 54 overall race wins, 17 national wins, 131 overall podium finishes, 4 regional championships and 1 national championship. In endurance racing, he has had 10 podium finishes and 1 national championship. This past March, he stepped out of his comfort zone and raced in the Daytona 200 at the Daytona International Speedway. His relationships with several drivers and teams across the motorcycle road racing circuit allows him to better understand the latest trends in motorsports technology. He roots others on for "the win" and takes pride when he is able to make a positive difference in the lives and careers of other racers. An amazing husband and father to 2 young boys (and also their cub scout leader), Jerry is very involved with his family and loves to take them on adventures. He and his wife Renea recently took their boys on an excursion in Utah and AZ hiking Bryce Canyon, the Hoover Dam, Horseshoe Bend, Upper Antelope Canyon and more. But, he'll be the first to tell you one of his greatest memories is automotive related – participating in the 2,300-mile Hot Rod Power Tour with his two sons. This zest for life and willingness to step outside of boundaries to explore new things makes him a true asset to Dayco and someone who embodies the motto of innovating and moving forward, always.

Nominee: **John Larson**

Dorman Products

Sr Director of Supply Chain Systems, Analytics and Demand

[None](#)

YANG Member NO

Nominated By: Anisa Sadat

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

John is the Sr Director of Supply Chain Systems, Analytics and Demand at Dorman Products. His responsibilities include developing the roadmap for supply chain systems and technology, managing the demand plan and SIOP process and supporting M&A activity. He is the Dorman SIOP process leader which is the backbone of ensuring success in supply chain execution. During the past two years, John and his organization developed analytics to quickly identify variability in the supply chain and drive actions to close gaps.

Industry Involvement:

No response.



Nominee: John Pacey

NPW - National Parts Warehouse
VP of Purchasing

none

YANG Member YES

Nominated By: John R. Washbish

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

John Pacey is vice president of operations and e-commerce at NPW Companies, a Bumper to Bumper affiliate of the Aftermarket Auto Parts Alliance, Inc. NPW is headquartered in Miami, Florida.

Pacey was born and raised in the automotive industry and has worked in almost every area of the business over the last 15 years. With this knowledge, he has been able to better understand the daily hurdles encountered across all departments and the intertwining of each. His extensive experience has enabled him to successfully improve operational efficiencies while subsequently improving the delivery of service to NPW's customers.

John has also been an integral part in the launching and propulsion of a relatively new venture for NPW, fulfillment business. He provides important contributions to the Alliance Product Committee and is a consistent attendee and engaged participant at the group's annual summer and winter shareholder meetings as well.

John is a Miami native and enjoys biking, golfing, and traveling. He seeks to continue NPW's rapid growth and follow in his father, Larry Pacey's footsteps by increasing his knowledge of the automotive industry and helping improve the industry as a whole.

Industry Involvement:

No response.

Additional Consideration: No comments.



Nominee: Jonathan Clements

Experi
Senior Account Manager

[linkedin.com/in/jon-clements-casper](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jon-clements-casper)

YANG Member YES

Nominated By: Michael Rukov

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Jon has done an outstanding job supporting and moving YANG forward. He has been involved with YANG for the last few years and pioneered many of the programs we all find so valuable now. Jon has been also helping with fund raisers and overall betterment of the industry.

Industry Involvement:

YANG Council

Additional Consideration: Because of his leadership in YANG and industry overall.



Nominee: Jonny Dykstra

Auto-Wares Group of Companies
Product Manager

[linkedin.com/in/jon-clements-casper](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jon-clements-casper)

YANG Member YES

Nominated By: John R. Washbish

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Less than a decade out of college, Auto-Wares Group of Companies Product Manager Jonny Dykstra has quickly become a rising star both at Auto-Wares and within the automotive aftermarket.

Dykstra joined the industry nearly 15 years ago as a sales parts specialist at Kenowa Auto Supply, a premier West Michigan wholesale and retail auto parts supplier and one of the largest automotive body shop suppliers in the state. He remained there for over six years while simultaneously working toward his double major in business management and marketing at Grand Valley State University. He has continued his aftermarket education through many courses, and he earned his Import Parts Specialist certification from the Auto Care Association in 2016.

He joined the Auto-Wares Group in 2013 as a marketing specialist, was promoted to general manager – foreign parts specialists in 2016, and was named product manager at the start of 2021. In his eight-year tenure with Auto-Wares, Dykstra has quickly become a key player within the realm of product and has become more involved with programs operated by the Aftermarket Auto Parts Alliance, Inc., including the summer and winter shareholder meetings and Sales & Marketing Forum.

Industry Involvement:

In 2017, Dykstra was among a class of scholarship recipients selected to attend the Auto Care Association Spring Leadership Days. The opportunity exposed him to the efforts of the Auto Care Association and its current leaders and helped prepare him as a future leader.

Two years later, Dykstra was one of just two recipients of the Auto Care Association’s Leadership 2.0 scholarship, valued at more than \$6,000. The scholarship gave him an opportunity to participate in one of the most highly regarded leadership development programs available to the auto care industry’s next generation of leaders. He was selected because of his “track record of success and great potential as {a} future leader,” per press that year.

Dykstra is active within YANG and has hosted regional meet ups. He is a role model to those who know him and a hard-working professional, a candidate who has already begun to make a significant impact on the industry.

Additional Consideration: No comments.



Nominee: Cindy Talamantes

Global Parts Distributors
Creative Director - Sales and Marketing

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/c-talamantes/>

YANG Member YES

Nominated By: Julian Hentze

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Cindy has become a very valuable member of our team and the industry, she has immersed herself into the aftermarket.

It is with great pleasure to write this letter for my request that my colleague, Cynthia (Cindy) Talamantes be considered for the Auto Care Association 4 for the future impact award. I have worked with Cindy as her direct supervisor over the past three years. Since day one, Cynthia has proven herself as a worthwhile asset for our company. I personally admire her integrity, intelligence, and strong work ethic. She is the poster child for the future of our association.

Initially hired as our Sales and Marketing Assistant she has grown way passed that position and is now our Creative Director of Sales and Marketing. Cindy has helped us transform our marketing department. Paired with an eagerness to learn, her marketing talents have greatly improved the content, quality, and cohesiveness of our print and digital publications. She has taken the initiative to learn all aspects of the automotive air conditioning industry, generative complex technical information, drawn from her own experience and that of the team around her and the service manager at our shop, Auto Air of Macon. In addition to excellent copywriting and communication skills, Cindy has proven to be a talented videographer. She took the initiative to curate, film, and edit technical videos for our social media channels and developed an internal training program for our customers that cover over 50 detailed technical and specialized training videos, as well as coordinate onsite training. To date our YouTube channel, @globalpartsdist, has gotten over 100,000 views with an overall average percentage view duration of 60% compared to 4,300 total channel views with an overall average percentage view duration of 6% at the end of 2019. This is just one example of her proven knack for design, marketing, and communication.

Industry Involvement:

Yang Board. Countless Yang fund raisers.

Additional Consideration: In three short years, Cynthia's talents have been recognized and sought by senior leadership across our organization. Today, she sits on the national Auto Care Association's Young Auto Care Network Group (YANG) advisory council and Central Georgia Technical College's Automotive Technology Advisory Committee.

Cynthia is a very rare find. She has not only made our marketing world class but has also established herself as a resource across our organization, and one day across our industry.



Nominee: Kylie Hirko

Endeavor Media
Vice President, Group Publisher

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/c-talamantes/>

YANG Member Yes

Nominated By: Jacki Lutz

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Kylie is everything we should work to retain in this industry. She is an incredible human and a great leader in her field. She has not only risen to the top of her organization through her professionalism and talent, but she volunteers her time to also help propel women in this industry through her work with Women in Auto Care. She handles all of their social media in her free time as a mother of two young kids. She shows passion and grit daily as she helps to forward DEI in the automotive aftermarket.

Industry Involvement:

No response.

Additional Consideration: Kylie is everything we should work to retain in this industry. She is an incredible human and a great leader in her field. She has not only risen to the top of her organization through her professionalism and talent, but she volunteers her time to also help propel women in this industry through her work with Women in Auto Care. She handles all of their social media in her free time as a mother of two young kids. She shows passion and grit daily as she helps to forward DEI in the automotive aftermarket.



Nominee: Matt Hellmann

Clore Automotive
Director of Category Management

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/matthellmann/>

YANG Member Yes

Nominated By: Jack Felty

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Matt Hellmann is a young professional who constantly strives to ensure technicians, shop owners, and DIY customers have the most up-to-date and accurate information. Clore Automotive's products are cutting edge diagnostics charging, starting, & testing and it is imperative in today's market that customers are educated and comfortable using them. Matt is responsible for the products, training, and other areas that impact our industry. He is a leader and is motivated to do what is best for our customers and our industry.

Industry Involvement:

No response.

Additional Consideration: Kylie is everything we should work to retain in this industry. She is an incredible human and a great leader in her field. She has not only risen to the top of her organization through her professionalism and talent, but she volunteers her time to also help propel women in this industry through her work with Women in Auto Care. She handles all of their social media in her free time as a mother of two young kids. She shows passion and grit daily as she helps to forward DEI in the automotive aftermarket.

Nominee: Matt Hellmann

Clore Automotive
Director of Category Management

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/matthellmann/>

YANG Member Yes

Nominated By: Matt Hellmann



Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

I've been in the automotive aftermarket since August 2015, majority with GPC. Left the automotive industry in 2021, but came back to join Clore Automotive in 2022 as the Director of Category Management. In 2015, I worked my way up as a marketing analyst diving into the industry absorbing as much information as I could. From there I became a category manager where my responsibilities were focused around Tools & Equipment. And in October 2020, was fortunate enough to be promoted to Director of Category Management for the Tools & Equipment category team. I now have a passion for tools not only in the automotive industry, but how can I find the latest and greatest globally and bring those into the automotive aftermarket. I continue to absorb as much information as possible by attending the AutoCare Association Leadership Days in both the Fall & Spring, participated in the 2019 Legislative Summit. Completed Certified Professional Category Analysts (CPCA) certification in 2020.

Industry Involvement:

2018-2021 AutoCare Association - Tools & Equipment Committee Member (passing off responsibilities to one of my employees to help benefit their involvement). Achieved Automotive Aftermarket Professional (AAP) certification through Northwood University in 2020. Completed my Certified Professional Category Analysts (CPCA) certification in 2020. Will be attending Leadership 2.0 in the future to acquire 7 of the 12 additional credits needed to earn my Master Automotive Aftermarket Professional (MAAP) certification. Continued involvement with City of Refuge. Have provided fully stocked tool boxes to the past 10 graduating classes when I was with Genuine Parts Company. City of Refuge's NAPA Auto Center Skills program is a 15-week auto tech-training and job placement program in partnership with Genuine Parts Company. Now volunteer as part of Clore Automotive.

Additional Consideration: Fully dedicated to this industry. Have been apart of this industry since 2017 and have done whatever it takes to make myself and the people around me better. Approach the business with partnerships and relationships versus only looking out for myself. Have met wonderful individuals that I can call my lifelong friends now. Was able to leave the industry to try something different for 7 months, but my heart was still with this industry and used my relationships to get back with a fantastic organization. Can provide contacts of recommendations if needed from within the industry.



Nominee: Matt Hellmann

Clore Automotive
Director of Category Management

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/matthellmann/>

YANG Member Not Sure

Nominated By: John Atkins

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Matt displays the passion and values for the automotive aftermarket that we should all strive for. Matt is a leader among his peers but also continues to be able to balance the needs of putting the team first and continues to bring the value out of everyone around him. He continues to be a positive influence in every role he has ever been in and is one of the smartest individuals I have ever met. There are many people in the industry that are only in it to collect a paycheck but I am proud to say that Matt not only cares about the work he is doing but also looks to make the community around him better. It is a great honor to be able to nominate Matt and there are not enough words to describe how much I admire the traits that Matt exhibits on a daily basis.

Industry Involvement:

No response.

Additional Consideration: No comments.



Nominee: Matt Hellmann

Clore Automotive
Director of Category Management

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/matthellmann/>

YANG Member Not Sure

Nominated By: Darrell Wade

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

I worked with Matt for years while he was with NAPA and now, he is a friendly competitor. Matt is one of the brightest people I have ever worked with. He is dynamic and forward thinking, always trying to do what is right for the business. Additionally, Matt is creative in his approach to problems and problem solving. He considers both sides and strives for the common middle ground. I am comforted knowing that the aftermarket has Matt Hellmann to help guide it currently and in the future.

Industry Involvement:

Past member of the Auto Care Category Management committee; Past member of the Auto Care Tools & Equipment segment committee; Recipient of the SEMA News 35 Under 35.

Additional Consideration: Leadership in growing NAPA's T&E business, as well as Clore Automotive's category management team



Nominee: Meagan Moody

ZF Aftermarket
Head of Customers & Strategy, North America
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/meaganmoody/>

YANG Member YES

Nominated By: Jacki Lutz

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Meagan has been heavily involved in the industry for almost a decade. She has served on countless councils and committees, volunteering her time to help make this industry better. I have had the pleasure of working closely with her on multiple occasions and she always operates with focus and helps achieve the goals put into place because she is passionate about the auto care industry. She helped legitimize this award as well as some of the efforts within YANG. She is always my first call when I have a problem or need professional advice. She deserves to be recognized for the impact she continues to make on this industry.

Industry Involvement:

No response.

Additional Consideration: No comments



Nominee: Meagan Moody

ZF Aftermarket
Head of Customers & Strategy, North America
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/meaganmoody/>

YANG Member YES

Nominated By: Stacey Miller

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

It's been a long time coming to finally be able to nominate Meagan for an Impact Award (she previously managed these). Megan is an absolute powerhouse when it comes to being involved in the industry and involving her peers to do so. She's always been driven by a desire to "give back" and inspire others to do the same. What's most impressive to me is how involved Meagan is in the industry while being a marketing executive at ZF - a demanding job. I've also watched her lead and mentor teammates within her organization while consistently producing results. When we say that the future is under 40, Megan is an excellent example of that.

Industry Involvement:

Automotive Communications Council past president, Auto Care Association Marketing and Communications Committee, Auto Care Leadership Days, YANG Council, Northwood University, AASA Marketing Executives Council, UAF Coffee Club, AACF, Women in Auto Care

Additional Consideration: No comments



Nominee: Michael Hellenberg

Auto-Wares Group of Companies
Technical Director

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/michael-hellenberg/>

YANG Member YES

Nominated By: Megan Dineff

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Michael has worked to better the aftermarket in many ways. He's done presentations at local high schools speaking about the automotive aftermarket. Michael has also been a member of YANG, an Auto Care Import Specialist, a Leadership 2.0 graduate, he is a Northwood University graduate. Michael is currently a member of the YANG advisory council.

Industry Involvement:

Member of YANG, Autocare Import Specialist, Leadership 2.0 graduate, YANG advisory council member

Additional Consideration: No comments



Nominee: Michelle Christenson

IQ Integrated Quality
Strategic Project Manager

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/machristenson/>

YANG Member YES

Nominated By: Steven Hughes

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Michelle has been in the automotive Aftermarket for 12+ years working for IQ Integrated Quality as the Strategic Project Manager. She has an extraordinary knowledge of the clients, the products, and the metrics of supply. She is very passionate about our industry and active with Auto Care regarding Government Affairs, the Import Vehicle Community and is an annual supporter of ACPAC. Michelle has a broad depth of knowledge relative to the Automotive Aftermarket that includes a global perspective. Michelle is a leader, and never fails to draw on this knowledge and experience when involved in activities within the Auto Care Association. Michelle has attended several Auto Care Leadership summits in DC as well as several YANG events of which she is an active member. Since 2019 she has been a judge for the BEST NEW PRODUCTS at AAPEX. Michelle is currently Vice Chair of the Auto Care Government Affairs Committee. Michelle is very passionate about her job and the industry.

Industry Involvement:

Government Affairs Committee - Vice Chair; Import Vehicle Community - Executive Leadership Committee; YANG - Active member

Additional Consideration: Simply put, she is an up and coming leader for our industry.



Nominee: Nena Oramas

Dorman Products
Sr. Supervisor, Operational Order Management

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/machristenson/>

YANG Member NO

Nominated By: Anisa Sadat

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Nena is the Sr. Supervisor charged with Operational Order Management at Dorman's largest Distribution Center. She brings with her a foundation of military service as U.S. Army Military Police Soldier. Her veteran background has prepared her well to handle the demanding challenges of today's global supply chain. Nena has been a key leader on staff in Portland, TN contributing significantly to on-time customer orders despite strong demand for our products in an ever changing and challenging labor market.

Industry Involvement:

No response.

Additional Consideration: Nena is the Sr. Supervisor charged with Operational Order Management at Dorman's largest Distribution Center. She brings with her a foundation of military service as U.S. Army Military Police Soldier. Her veteran background has prepared her well to handle the demanding challenges of today's global supply chain. Nena has been a key leader on staff in Portland, TN contributing significantly to on-time customer orders despite strong demand for our products in an ever changing and challenging labor market. Nena also leads our Portland Chapter of the Dorman Veteran's Network. Her unparalleled leadership skills have brought energy and results to several veteran initiatives. Accomplishments include fund raising for a WW2 Veteran who lost his house in a fire, raising funds for the Marine Corps Scholarship Fund, supported organizations such as the Travis Manion Foundation and America's Mighty Warriors. She is quick to volunteer for local recruiting events to aide transitioning Sailors, Soldiers and Marines looking for opportunities in the private sector. Nena provides a myriad tangible and intangible talents, elevating the capabilities of the Dorman Distribution Team. She completed her undergraduate work at Austin Peay State University and is now pursuing her MBA with Louisiana State University. Her education combined with her distribution experience gained at Walmart has positioned Nena well to enhance the customer experience of Dorman's customer base both large and small.



Nominee: Nick Viveiros

First Brands Group
Business Development Manager OE/OES

<http://linkedin.com/in/nick-viveiros>

YANG Member Not sure

Nominated By: Nick Viveiros

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Gained experience in automotive service, retail auto parts, wholesale auto parts and auto parts supplier. Expanded role from managing brake system product line to multiple non related product lines like water pumps, spark plugs, fuel pumps, filtration and wiper systems. Through networking, training and research expanded supply chain knowledge to lead customer supply chain weekly meetings to ensure world class service to General Motors. Work hand in hand with global customer in Middle East, Africa, Australia, Canada ...) to penetrate markets and expand auto parts availability to customers. Support customer with content for social media, e-commerce (Amazon) product web page improvement, training videos, Product support sales sheets, trade shows and in field training. Over 7,000 installer shop visits in career.

Industry Involvement:

Six time General Motors Supplier of the Year recipient and Overdrive Winner, vice chair for AASA OESC, member of MiX, been published in trade articles in automotive magazines 3x

Additional Consideration: No comments.



Nominee: Nicole Smith

ITW

Digital Marketing Manager

none

YANG Member NO

Nominated By: Chad Ellman

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Nicole continually promotes and educates consumers on the benefits of automotive aftermarket products, particularly in the Tire Repair segment. Ms. Smith pushes the boundaries and uses tools to make tire repair accessible to all drivers. Nicole is a master at delivering information to consumers that makes Tire Repair Products products look easy. Her passion is apparent in her marketing prowess including packaging, advertisements, video content, commercials and ecommerce space. In summary, Nicole uses her passion to keep consumers passionate about automotive aftermarket products. This industry is grows with the kind of boundary breaking thinking that Nicole possess.

Industry Involvement:

No response.

Additional Consideration: No comments.

Nominee: Nicole Swartz

SYLVANIA Automotive
Product Data Specialist

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/nikkiswartz>

YANG Member Not sure

Nominated By: Sarah Westfield

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Nicole Swartz has a deep-rooted passion for all things data and innovation which is present everyday with her interactions in the industry. As the Data Specialist at SYLVANIA she is the steward for our lighting data, ensuring quality and compliance in all things ACES & PIES delivered to our customers. In her short time within the automotive aftermarket industry, she has put standards in practice and identified opportunities for improvement to our category data. In addition, she has built strong relationships within the industry and with our customers to ensure data integrity and future-focused thinking in each project she starts. Nicole's entrepreneurial spirit and dedication continues to drive innovation, which is why we at SYLVANIA believe she is a shining young female in a category that is far more complex than many in the aftermarket industry.

Industry Involvement:

Nicole Swartz's industry involvement includes the following: - Participation in 2022 ACPN conference - Submission of Multiple ACES Digital Assets Per Application to the Technology Standards Committee for review - Participation in Workgroup to approve the Multiple ACES Digital Assets Per Application - Internal involvement to drive standardization in PAdb for attributes in the lighting category - Developing relationships with both industry leaders and retail customers to problem solve and help drive category growth

Additional Consideration: A problem-solver, Nicole submitted an ACES standard enhancement earlier this year to increase digital assets permitted per application. This will help to innovate the automotive industry and retail customer needs as eCommerce and digital channels continue to see accelerated growth, requiring increased content for consumers to make an informed purchasing decision.

Nicole recently attended the ACPN conference where she was able to collaborate with like-minded industry leaders and brought back a wealth of insights to share with our team. She was an active participant through many of the sessions, brainstorming to solve current issues the industry is facing and brought back action items for our team to address in the coming years.

These qualities listed are just a few of the many contributions she has made to the automotive industry to support our retail partners over the past year. Nicole is often told she runs the most complicated data sets in the industry and is watched for what is being done by her in the aftermarket data arena. Outside of her day-to-day responsibilities at SYLVANIA, Nicole continues to problem-solve and currently holds a patent for a product she has developed, this is not something many of us can say, let alone under the age of 40. It goes without saying, she has truly made remarkable contributions and we look forward to watching her continued success both within SYLVANIA and the greater auto care industry!



Nominee: Shawn Senior

Eastern Warehouse Distributors
COO

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/shawnsenior/>

YANG Member Not sure

Nominated By: John R. Washbish

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Throughout the past decade, Eastern Warehouse Distributors' Chief Operating Officer Shawn Senior has become a strong industry leader and advocate. He is an effective COO, an analytical thinker, an inventory management expert, and a passionate supporter of the aftermarket.

Eastern Auto Parts Warehouse, which services Pennsylvania and New Jersey, is dominant in its marketplace. The locally-owned and -operated company takes pride in a wide selection of quality products, 40 warehouse locations, and a fleet of more than 500 GPS-dispatched delivery vehicles. The company has also signed more than 400 repair shops as Confidence Plus Certified Service Centers. In his role as COO, Senior manages both daily operations and big-picture scope and strategy.

Senior began his auto care career as a counter person. He then transitioned to inventory management, purchasing, and product before being named chief operating officer in 2019. Throughout his 11-year tenure with the company, Senior has effectively managed the company's extensive inventory, executed changes in product offerings, directed projects to optimize inventory, and more. He works closely with representatives from all parts of the distribution chain.

Industry Involvement:

No response.

Additional Consideration: In 2016, Senior won a scholarship from the Aftermarket Auto Parts Alliance, Inc., which enabled him to attend Northwood University's Leadership 2.0 course, an intellectually challenging two-week executive development and learning experience that is rooted in the application of automotive aftermarket leadership principles. As part of the course, participants are grouped into teams, which then collaborate on an industry project of their choosing. During the 2016-2017 course, Senior's group was selected as the winning team, exemplifying his leadership and professional capabilities.

Senior is also actively involved in the Alliance, where Eastern Warehouse Distributors is an engaged Bumper to Bumper member. He currently serves on the Alliance's Product Committee, which meets monthly to strategize on the direction of product lines for all Alliance members.

Senior has attained his ASE Certified Parts Specialist status. He also received recognition within Eastern in 2012 as the Sales Achievement Award recipient, and in 2015 as the recipient of the Chairman's Award for Outstanding Performance and Dedication. He has continually excelled within Eastern and the Alliance and would make an outstanding selection for the Auto Care Association's 2022 Impact Award.



Nominee: Stacey Miller

Auto-Care Association
Vice President, Communications
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/staceylamiller/>

YANG Member YES

Nominated By: Meaghan Moody

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

For those that know Stacey - then you know that her passion for the industry goes past her job responsibilities. She does her job because of passion. And she doesn't just do her job - she goes above and beyond, taking what she does across her daily tasks, and using those efforts in her free time to continue advocating for our industry.

Industry Involvement:

YANG, Women in Auto Care, Woman at the Wheel, Automotive Communications Council, Leadership 2.0, Industry Speaker, Industry Advocate

Additional Consideration: As noted in the consideration question - Stacey is an advocate for our industry, through her job but above and beyond into her personal life. Stacey has been a long time supporter of our industry, always aftermarket, never dealer. Stacey shifted into our industry from an industry she was recognized as an influencer in. She took this leap because of her passion for the aftermarket, her passion for vehicles, her passion for knowledge, and her passion to connecting more people to the important topics at hand.

The efforts she has driven through her work at Auto Care Association is so essential to the livelihood of our industry, and also the general growth, success and awareness. This award of course isn't for what people do in their job task requirements. It's for someone that goes above and beyond.

That to me is an easy statement to make of Stacey. She goes above and beyond. In all she does. She advocates and promotes our industry across her personal social media profiles. She does so with her family, friends, and at events she attends. She has used her free time on weekends to present at a range of different conferences.

From my point of view, Stacey is the clear persona of the Impact Award. She is an example for young professionals in work ethic and dedication and also on how to speak up for the topics you are passionate about – the topics that matter.



Nominee: Tanya Hunt
BBB Industries
Commercial Project Manager
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/tanya-hunt-0a402414/>

YANG Member YES
Nominated By: Kim Nolan

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Tanya Hunt has been impacting the automotive aftermarket internally at BBB for seven years. She co-founded our Corporate Citizenship Committee (CCC) and also introduced a global Perspectives Webinar Series for leadership development and information sharing across the organization (i.e. Women of BBB, Sustainability, Global Reach: Introduction to Recent Acquisitions) She has been getting increasingly involved with the Auto Care Association the past four years. Once she joined the commercial team, she was introduced to AAPEX and Auto Care. She joined YANG in 2021 and joined WIAC this year. She supports the University of Aftermarket with CCC funds, hosts an annual scholarship committee and hand picks the recipient of the Don Bigler Lifetime Trustee Award. Tanya has a positive impact on BBB the company, her co-workers, and industry peers thru her actions, not her words – it is for this reason I know she is deserving of this recognition.

Additional Consideration:

I would like to nominate Tanya Hunt for the 2022 Impact Award. I met her in 2015 and she's been impressing me ever since with her energy, positivity, and passion. She started at BBB Industries 7 years ago. We met while she was developing/implementing Budget/Forecast software for the sales team and training us simultaneously! Since then, I have gotten to know her and watch her career journey. She has been in multiple positions with multiple managers and has never not delivered. The position she currently resides in she created: proved the need and then filled the role of Commercial Project Manager. As she has automated various aspects of her job, she finds the bandwidth to do what she calls being a BBB Ambassador. She co-founded BBB Corporate Citizenship Committee and brought to the entire company Perspectives Webinar Series where she invites our global company to join on topics such as Women at BBB Panel, Sustainability and most recently invited NINE of our most recent acquisitions to introduce themselves, their teams, and their products. She is always willing to help, and she sees it through to the end. In 2018 she co-founded the BBB Corporate Citizenship Committee. As of this year, she has taken it from a local committee to having a representative at every location across the world. This helps BBB fulfill one of our core values: positively impacting our surrounding communities. This year we represented BBB all over the world for Reman Day in addition to hosting global Earth Day where we picked up trash, planted trees, and celebrated being part of sustainability manufacturing. In December 2021 she called me with an idea to start a webinar series with the Women of BBB Panel. She wanted to highlight me and other women in leadership roles in our company to hear our stories, share our struggles and tricks of the trade with all of BBB. She organized everything: questions, invites, happy hour, and dinner with local female coworkers. (We even let the men attend the webinar). It was a success! Afterward, she got CEO approval to make it bi-monthly with approved topics of interest. She is always trying to help improve our communication, talent development, and talent retention. She plans to be at BBB long-term and wants to continue steering it in a positive direction: to be a place where people want to work. Involvement in the Auto Care Association is more recent but has progressed similarly. She joined YANG in 2021. Hosted the 2021 Virtual Leadership Conference and this year attended in person. She also shares and hosts the YANG webinars in Daphne. She and I both attended the WIAC breakfast last year and have since volunteered to do our part. I became a committee member and without hesitation, Tanya joined as a champion to support me and WIAC. We attended Leadership days together and are currently working on multiple side projects to bring WIAC to the women of our industry. Tanya is a force and has done everything above for the good of her co-workers, community, and the industry without the expectation of credit. I am proud to have her as a colleague and cannot wait to see what she does in the future. Tanya has a positive impact on BBB the company, her co-workers, and industry peers thru her actions, not her words – it is for this reason I know she is deserving of this recognition.

Industry Involvement:

2018-Present: Attends AAPEX/AWDA. 2021: Joined Yang, Hosted the Virtual YANG Conference for BBB YANG. 2022: Joined WIAC, Became WIAC Champion, Attended Leadership Days, Attended YANG Conference



Nominee: Tanya Hunt

BBB Industries

Commercial Project Manager

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/tanya-hunt-0a402414/>

YANG Member YES

Nominated By: Jessica Toliuszis

Why should this nominee be considered for this award?

Tanya is someone who makes an impact at everything she does. She launched internal fundraising efforts at her company throughout the global organization. Whether it's at BBB, volunteering throughout the industry at Women in Auto Care, leadership days, YANG, in her personal life, she consistently gives back to the community. Launching volunteering efforts, hosting blood drives, raising money for local organizations of interest at each of their global facilities, Tanya's efforts have taken small amounts of time and effort to make the largest impact. She facilitates with people all over her company across the globe to discover their passions and then finds ways to get the money to help their charity of choice, always adding volunteer hours to any monetary donation.

Industry Involvement:

No response.

Additional Consideration: YANG, Head Champion for Women in Auto Care, attends leadership days