

Friends™

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Everything for people@work.

April 27, 2011

Friends' customers select Office Idol 2011

OHIO - Friends Business Source supports administrative professionals throughout Ohio and Western Pennsylvania by hosting an Office Idol contest from March 7 through April 22.

“Our administrative professionals are in constant contact with all of our customers, and the customer experience is extremely important to me and to Friends,” explains Ken Schroeder, CEO and President. “We need them to be very knowledgeable, customer focused people, who make the customers initial experience with Friends a pleasant one.”

Those nominating administrative professionals for the Office Idol title were directed to www.friendsoffice.com via email marketing, social media and word-of-mouth advertising in order to participate in this contest. There were 74 total nominations between March 7 and April 1. (<http://www.friendsoffice.com/Office-Idol/idol-11.html>)

Nominees were then voted on by office employees of Friends. Ten finalists were chosen by Friends representatives. Finalists' names, titles as well as short descriptions about each of them were posted on the web where the general public could view and utilize the information during the voting period. (<http://www.friendsoffice.com/Office-Idol/vote11.html>)

Between April 1 and April 22, 4,905 people voted for the next Office Idol. The top three winners were announced on Administrative Professionals Day, April 27, 2011. (<http://www.friendsoffice.com/Office-Idol/idol-11-winners.html>)

Second Runner-Up was Valorie Kondilas, Records Secretary of Brook Park Memorial Elementary in Cleveland, Ohio. Valorie had over 800 votes come in for her. She received a branded apparel shirt with a logo of her choice from Friends! This prize has a \$75.00 value.

First Runner-Up was Teresa Breckenridge, Marketing Coordinator for Performance Training Services of Columbus, Ohio. Teresa had over 1,200 votes come in for her. She received a new Alera High-back Black leather swivel and tilt office chair! This prize has a \$150.00 value.

Renee Boardman is the School Director for Performance Training Services. “I nominated Teresa because she’s continually looking for new and creative ideas for our organization, while also being cost effective in her efforts. She is very passionate about the school and the students that attend. Teresa becoming 1st runner up is very gratifying for the staff. Now, everyone knows how great of a person we work with.”

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Corporate Headquarters
2300 Bright Road
Findlay, OH 45840
Cleveland
4199 Kinross Lakes Parkway
Suite 200
Richfield, OH 44286
Columbus
214 Hoff Rd. Suite H
Westerville, OH 43082
Toledo
355 Tomahawk Drive
Maumee, OH 43537
Mansfield
165 N. Trimble Rd.
Mansfield, OH 44906



www.friendsoffice.com

800.427.1704

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Corporate Headquarters
2300 Bright Road
Findlay, OH 45840
Cleveland
4199 Kinross Lakes Parkway
Suite 200
Richfield, OH 44286
Columbus
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Maumee, OH 43537
Mansfield
165 N. Trimble Rd.
Mansfield, OH 44906

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The winner and Office Idol of 2011 is Deb Everhardt, Office Manager and Assistant to the Director at Penta Career Center in Perrysburg, Ohio. Deb received over 3,000 votes! She received a Keurig single-serve B150 coffee brewer which is a \$200.00 value.

“I am very honored that they nominated me and I am fortunate to have such a wonderful team that I can rely on to assist with any projects no matter how large or small,” states Deb. “I was very touched to be named Office Idol 2011 and really shocked! I appreciate the support I received from everyone who voted. Thank you!”

For more information on Friends Business Source or their Office Idol contest, go to www.friendsoffice.com or call 800.427.1704 and ask for the marketing department.

Friends Business Source is one of Ohio's largest independently owned office supply dealers. For over 45 years, Friends has been partnering with companies and school districts throughout Ohio, southeastern Michigan, and now in Pennsylvania, in order to maintain the best service and supply of office and school related products. They specialize in office supplies, office furniture, catalog machines, educational services and supplies, coffee supplies and technology, custom print orders, promotional products, branded apparel, as well as janitorial and break room supplies. As a single source supplier, Friends truly has everything for people at work.

MEDIA INQUIRIES:

Ashley Barger, Direct Marketing Manager
Friends Business Source
2300 Bright Road
Findlay, Ohio 45840
Ashley@friendsoffice.com

Betsy Hughes, Vice President of Sales
Friends Business Source
2300 Bright Road
Findlay, Ohio 45840
Betsy@friendsoffice.com



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800.427.1704

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