

# MEET THE 2014 BUSINESSES OF THE YEAR

CenterState CEO congratulates four members honored with the 2014 Business of the Year Awards.

Each award was presented by Gregg Tripoli, executive director of the Onondaga Historical Association, a 2013 Business of the Year honoree. Awards were accepted by: Kevin Hanna, area manager external affairs, AT&T; Robert Daino, president and CEO, WCNY; Ralph Phillips, marketing manager, Morse Manufacturing; and Jim McCarthy, president, Northland Communications.

## **Northland Communications**, More than 50 Employees



Northland Communications, a third-generation family business dating back to 1905, is a total solutions telecom provider of commercial telephone systems, voice and data products, local dial tone, long distance and Internet services to local businesses. Recently, Northland released a Quality of Life plan that allows employees to work from home one day per week. Northland has expanded its employee development training programs to include a Learned Management System (LMS), which provides professional development, while giving Northland the ability to track employee progress. All employees and their families have access to 300 internal training applications at no cost.

## **Morse Manufacturing**, Less than 50 Employees



Morse Manufacturing, a third-generation family business, has focused exclusively on designing, manufacturing and marketing drum handling equipment in Central New York. Morse is a leader in adopting new technologies on the factory floor and in its offices. Morse considers its employees its greatest asset. Its average employee tenure is 15 years. During the recession, the company experienced a sales decline of more than 25 percent but did not lay off any employees. While this hurt its short-term profitability, once the economy began to recover it was able to meet a renewed demand with its same experienced staff.

## **WCNY**, Not-for-profit



WCNY is Central New York's only community-owned public media company with multimedia platforms including TV, radio, web, print and social media. It recently celebrated the grand opening of its new \$20 million, 56,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility on the city's Near Westside. Its innovative Broadcast and Education Center will serve 1.8 million residents in 19 counties. In addition to its broadcast programming, WCNY brings reading, math and science literacy programs into area schools and libraries, and for the past year, to Upstate Medical University's Golisano Children's Hospital.

## **AT&T**, Community Involvement



In 2013, six Syracuse-based AT&T employees and more than 4,000 AT&T employees were recognized with the Presidential Volunteer Service Award, encouraging citizens to live a life of service. AT&T and AT&T employees support Syracuse organizations including: Francis House; Diabetes Association; Teen Institute; Making Strides (Breast Cancer Walk); the SPCA; Leukemia Society; MS Walk; YMCA; and others. For the last seven years, AT&T ranked first on the annual list of the Best Corporate Citizens by CR Magazine. Through the AT&T Aspire program, the company has invested \$350 million in education through more than 1,000 organizations.