

Discover the art of entrepreneurship.

#EOYSwitzerland2024



**EY Entrepreneur
Of The Year™**



What makes your business a masterpiece?

Discover the art of entrepreneurship.

We are searching for the best. Participate and become part of the largest entrepreneurial network in the world.



The better the question. The better the answer.
The better the world works.



EY

Building a better
working world

EY has sought out an EY Entrepreneur Of The Year for 27 years to date. As well as gaining recognition both in Switzerland and internationally, participants become members of the largest entrepreneurial network in the world. Over 50,000 entrepreneurs are part of this network today, and that number grows by approximately 1,200 more every year.

Do you have what it takes to become an EY Entrepreneur Of The Year in 2024? Take part and find out!

EY Entrepreneur Of The Year	6
Participation	9
Rules	10
Network	12
Process	14
Jury	16
Partner	18
Sponsors	20
Hall of fame	22

Successful entrepreneurship is at the core of a healthy society. Although this insight is not new, we are once again witnessing how important it is in today's day and age.

For this reason, the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year has fostered and rewarded creative, exciting and successful entrepreneurship worldwide in over 60 countries for nearly 30 years.

In Switzerland, we have presented awards for entrepreneurial excellence since 1998 to companies ranging from young start-ups to multi-generational family businesses. Fresh wind and reliable continuity - both are essential.

Please help in supporting this entrepreneurship and in recognizing achievements that sustain our economy and ultimately our society. If you are an entrepreneur, we would be pleased to receive your application. If you know any potential candidates, please don't hesitate to share this brochure with them.

The following pages explain the steps that lead to securing the world's most coveted award for entrepreneurial achievement. An application, an interview and a potential jury visit.

The secret of the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year's success is not the grand stage. Rather, it is the sincere pride of employees, friends and families, and this cannot be offset with money.

Furthermore, it is the worldwide network that connects former candidates. Around 5,000 entrepreneurs from around the world apply every year. Engaging in conversations, sharing experiences and reaching new shores together - that is the essence of the program.

Become part of this unique community and support this program. Or enter the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year 2024 as a candidate.



Stefan Rösch-Rütsche
Country Managing Partner
EY Switzerland and Liechtenstein



André Bieri
EW Market Leader
EY Switzerland and Liechtenstein



Frédéric Tissot
EY Entrepreneur Of The Year
Program Director Switzerland

A unique competition that offers so much more

EY Entrepreneur Of The Year is the world's largest and most prestigious award for entrepreneurial achievements. It is a locally-based program with a global impact.

- International** Through EY Entrepreneur Of The Year, EY has been committed to specifically recognizing the achievements of entrepreneurs since 1986. The program was launched in the US and has now spread to over 60 countries.
- Federal** Over the last 27 years, around 50 entrepreneurs in Switzerland have applied annually for most valuable national award with international acclaim.
- Competition** An independent jury selects three finalists in each of four categories. The winners are then chosen from these finalists. Finally, all the nominated and award-winning Swiss entrepreneurs celebrate together at the closing gala.
- Network** The network originating from this competition, which you join simply by being nominated, is second to none. This network of entrepreneurs, owners and founders concentrates energy with the potential to change our world.

“

For us, entrepreneurship means fulfilling the dreams of our customers. Our team and our partner cooks really enjoy working employees and mixing up the office routine.



Daniela and Emanuel Steiner
felfel
EY Entrepreneur Of The Year 2018

“

What I believe holds true is that success breeds success. Initiatives like the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year program are critical in not only giving voice to the diverse group of entrepreneurs, innovations and businesses that make up our ecosystem, but in part inspiring the next generation of founders.



Alisée de Tonnac
Seedstars
EY Entrepreneur Of The Year Finalist 2021

What do you need to win?

Categories

Swiss entrepreneurs compete in the following categories:

- **Trade & Services**
- **Industry, High-Tech & Life Sciences**
- **Emerging Entrepreneur***
- **Family Business****

Conditions of participation

Entrepreneurs have the chance to win an award if they

1. are responsible for their own business,
2. play an active role in the company and are largely responsible for the company's development in the past few years and
3. hold significant shares in the company.

The company

4. is based in Switzerland and generates a significant proportion of its value here,
5. has existed for at least 8 years,
6. generated revenue of at least 10 million Swiss francs in the past fiscal year and
7. employs at least 40 employees.

Special conditions

* Candidates for the category Emerging Entrepreneur generate a minimum of 1 million Swiss francs in annual revenue. The company exists between 2 and 12 years.

**A company only qualifies as a Family Business if at least three generations of family members are or were actively involved in running the business in key leadership roles.

Clear rules, even for disruptors

Criteria

- All decisions are based on the same criteria worldwide:
- ▶ Entrepreneurial spirit
 - ▶ Business development and value creation
 - ▶ Strategic orientation, innovativeness and sustainability
 - ▶ National, global and sustainable impact
 - ▶ Personnel management, values and exemplary function

Rules

We stand for fair competition. This is why the same rules apply to all participants in EY Entrepreneur Of The Year:

1. Contestants guarantee that the information they provide is complete and truthful. Incorrect information will result in disqualification from the competition.
2. Questions not answered or incompletely answered in the nomination sheet, in particular regarding company figures and shareholders, will be scored with zero points and will affect the overall rating.
3. EY conducts an assessment to ensure compliance with the standards set out in the EY Global Code of Conduct and independence requirements to which EY is subject.
4. By taking part in the competition, you authorize Ernst & Young AG to use your name, company name, logos, company and personal profiles as well as photographs, video and audio recordings free of charge. The information provided in your documents will be presented to the jury and used for the gala and all supporting channels (brochures, web, media and social media) as well as texts (stage, screen, event platform and hall of fame).
5. Only the jury and EY will have access to the information submitted, which will be kept strictly confidential.
6. The jury may, at its discretion, determine and allocate categories and obtain further information about contestants.
7. An entrepreneur may enter the competition no more than three times.



Dr. Jean-Paul Clozel
Idorsia Pharmaceuticals
EY Entrepreneur Of The Year 2007
for Actelion Pharmaceuticals
EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year 2008

“
When I won this award, I said to myself: I have to show them that they made the right choice. Even now, this motivates me to do my best in my demanding job every day.

This network is more than the sum of its parts

As a member of the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year network, you enjoy many benefits: whether it's informative trips to promising markets, small informal round tables or a summer camp for the next generation of entrepreneurs, there's something for everyone – and above all, the chance to engage in in-depth personal exchange with other entrepreneurs.

In Switzerland

- ▶ Alumni events for Swiss contestants
- ▶ Family Office round tables on safeguarding assets down the generations
- ▶ Specialist events on current economic issues
- ▶ Award night – the gala to celebrate the country's top entrepreneurs

Around the world

- ▶ Family Office Summit for competitors from Europe
- ▶ EY NextGen Academy with workshops for the next generations
- ▶ Tomorrow's Legacy Retreat

EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year™

Each country selects an entrepreneur to represent it at the EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year. An exclusive event is planned where representatives from 60 countries meet in Monte Carlo. The highlight of the event, an exclusive gala at the Salle des Étoiles, is accompanied by a first-class program of workshops, receptions, presentations and dinners.



You take the first step, we do the rest

January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December



You fill out the nomination sheet, either on paper with the attached form or online at www.eoy.ch/application. Filling it out takes at most 60 minutes.



We accept applications until
5 April 2024



We contact you and ask to conduct an interview with you. This takes approximately 90 minutes.



We send your documents and our impressions to the jury. The jury independently discusses, evaluates and decides on contestants. You should schedule some free time in July/August in case the jury wants to meet you in person.



We organize an unforgettable gala evening. The gala will take place on **4 October 2024**. Together, we witness the jury's decision on the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year 2024. Upon your admission to the competition, you become a member of the international network of entrepreneurs.

Independent, incorruptible, trustworthy

Credibility is crucial to the success of any competition. The EY Entrepreneur Of The Year is underpinned by clear rules, binding criteria and a qualified jury that is completely independent.

The jury of EY Entrepreneur Of The Year inspects the documents of the candidates free of charge and remains independent of EY and the sponsors. It selects categories and makes its decision based on the internationally stipulated assessment criteria. The jury subsequently visits entrepreneurs and their businesses.



Dr. Adrienne Corboud Fumagalli
Chairwoman of the Board of Directors of Unyversal Technologies
Member of the Board of Directors of SwissLife



Marco Gadola
Chairman of the Board of Directors, DKSH, Medartis and WS Audiology



Thomas Hanan
Founder & CEO
Webrepublic
EY Entrepreneur Of The Year 2017



Jan Lichtenberg
CEO, InSphero
EY Entrepreneur Of The Year 2015



Didier Maus
Chairman of the Board of Directors, Maus Frères



Michael Müller
Group CEO, Valora and Head Europe FEMSA Proximity & Health



Jean-Marc Probst
Chairman of the Board of Directors, Probst Group Holding



Franziska Tschudi Sauber
Chairwoman of the Board of Directors Weidmann Holding
EY Entrepreneur Of The Year 2022



Pascale Vonmont
CEO, Gebert RUF Stiftung



Pr. Dr. Thomas Zellweger
Director of the Center for Family Business, University of St. Gallen

Programme partner

Julius Baer is the leading Swiss wealth management group and a premium brand in this global sector, with a focus on servicing and advising sophisticated private clients. In all we do, we are inspired by our purpose: creating value beyond wealth. At the end of October 2023, assets under management amounted to CHF 435 billion. Bank Julius Baer & Co. Ltd., the renowned Swiss private bank with origins dating back to 1890, is the principal operating company of Julius Baer Group Ltd., whose shares are listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (ticker symbol: BAER) and are included in the Swiss Leader Index (SLI), comprising the 30 largest and most liquid Swiss stocks.

Julius Baer is present in around 25 countries and over 60 locations. Headquartered in Zurich, we have offices in Switzerland in Basle, Berne, Crans-Montana, Geneva, Lausanne, Lucerne, Lugano, Sion, St. Gallen, St. Moritz and Verbier.



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We are proud to be the programme partner of the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year™ in Switzerland for the second year running.

Julius Baer has been a partner of the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year events held in Ireland and the United Kingdom since 2019, and we have continued to contribute to the programme's success story through our collaboration in Switzerland since 2023.

We would like to wish everyone involved lots of success for the programme 2024, which we are delighted to be supporting.

Bank Julius Baer Switzerland

Sponsors with entrepreneurial drive

amag

Solutions for the future.

With around 7500 employees, including over 800 trainees, the AMAG Group wants to develop itself as the leading provider of sustainable individual mobility solutions. The family-owned company is already the market leader for battery electric vehicles. Different needs call for individual mobility and that's where the AMAG Group's solutions come in. For a couple of hours, a few days, months or even for the lifetime of one car; together or by yourself, two-wheelers, Microlinos or electric cars. With the acquisition of Helion Energy AG, AMAG is augmenting its expertise in the energy sector and thus expanding the comprehensive product offerings for advisory services and provision of photovoltaic roof systems as well as energy and charging management for the home and for the companies.

GIRARD-PERREGAUX



About Girard-Perregaux

Since 1791, Girard-Perregaux has been embracing the rhythm of ever-elusive time. Cradled in the Jura mountains in the heart of La Chaux-de-Fonds, it is a pioneer in the world of Haute Horlogerie: an independent Manufacture which has retained this status for over two centuries, successfully keeping all production in-house and passing down exceptional horological skills throughout the generations. Always seeking the perfect balance of beauty and functionality, fans of fine watchmaking will instantly recognise the house signatures, such as the iconic octagonal bezel of the Laureato and the legendary Tourbillon with 'Three Gold Bridges'.

HDI

Innovative insurance solutions for today and tomorrow – wherever you are in the world.

HDI Global SE (HDI), established 120 years ago by entrepreneurs for entrepreneurs, is one of the world's leading industrial insurers. It meets the demand for tailored insurance solutions among SMEs, industrial companies and major corporations, while at the same time serving as their reliable "Partner in Transformation". As part of the Talanx Group, HDI is on hand to assist its clients in more than 175 countries with its branch offices, subsidiaries and sister companies, as well as network partners. HDI uses its innovative insurance offering to help companies to be successful – across the globe and with the support of local experts in Switzerland.

+ SWISS

"Grüezi" and welcome aboard

Swiss International Air Lines (SWISS) is Switzerland's leading air carrier. With one of Europe's most advanced and carbon-efficient aircraft fleets, SWISS is a premium airline that provides direct flights from Zurich and Geneva to keep Switzerland connected with Europe and the world. Its Swiss WorldCargo division offers an extensive range of airport-to-airport airfreight services for high-value, time-critical and care-intensive consignments. As The Airline of Switzerland, SWISS embodies its home country's traditional values and is dedicated to delivering the highest product and service quality. SWISS is part of the Lufthansa Group, and is also a member of Star Alliance, the world's biggest airline network.

Hall of Fame

1998

SERVICES

Reto Gurtner, Weisse Arena

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH

Dr. Dieter Beer,
CarboGen Laboratories

TRADE

Olivier Burger (†),
PKZ Burger-Kehl & Co

1999

TRADE/SERVICES

Marcel Queloz-Fürer, Büro-Fürer

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH

Peter Spuhler, Stadler Fahrzeuge

START-UP

Peter Ohnemus, The Fantastic Corporation

2000

TRADE/SERVICES

Adrian Stalder, Hotel Saratz

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH

Dr. h.c. Thomas Straumann,
Straumann Holding

START-UP

Dr. Wolfgang Renner,
Cytos Biotechnology

2001

TRADE/SERVICES

Prof. Dr. Anton Gunzinger,
Supercomputing Systems

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH

Fides P. Baldesberger, Outils Rubis

START-UP

Dieter Trissler, The BEE Company

2002

TRADE/SERVICES

Markus Oberholzer,
First Catering Produktion

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Peter A. Schifferle,
sia Abrasives Holding

START-UP

Dr. Waldemar Kubli,
AutoForm Engineering

SUPPORTER OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

START – Studentenschaft der
Universität St. Gallen

2003

TRADE/SERVICES

Stefan Arn, AdNovum

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH

Bernard Poupon, Reitzel (Suisse)

START-UP

Adel F. Labib und François Callegaro,
Télésonique Groupe

MASTER ENTREPRENEUR

Louis Max Widmer (†), Louis Widmer

2004

TRADE/SERVICES

Pierre-Alain Schnegg, Pro-Concept

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Heinz Aeschlimann,
Aeschlimann Asphalt Engineering

START-UP

Dr. Gery Colombo, Hocoma

2005

TRADE/SERVICES

Robin Cornelius, Switcher

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Peter Heimlicher, Contrinex

START-UP

Fabio Cesa und Jean-Luc Mossier,
SilentSoft

MASTER ENTREPRENEUR

Dr. h.c. Willy Michel, Ypsomed Holding

2006

TRADE/SERVICES

Walter Borner, Zimmerli Textil

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Rudolf Liebherr, Morga

START-UP

Fabio Cavalli, mondoBIOTECH

MASTER ENTREPRENEUR

Domenic Steiner, Thermoplan

2007

TRADE/SERVICES

Doris Albisser, CLS Communication

HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Dr. Jean-Paul Clozel,
Actelion Pharmaceuticals

INDUSTRY

Bernhard Alpstaeg,
swisspor Management

MASTER ENTREPRENEUR

Dr. Urs Rickenbacher und Urs
Baumann, Lantal Textiles

2008

TRADE/SERVICES

Walter Hübscher, Zaunteam Franchise

HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Andreas Schmidheini, Varioprint

INDUSTRY

Dr. Geoffrey Scott,
Uster Technologies

MASTER ENTREPRENEUR

Klaus-Michael Kühne,
Kühne + Nagel International

2009

TRADE/SERVICES

Walter Fankhauser, Roth Gerüste

HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Prof. Dr. Andrea Pfeifer, AC Immune

INDUSTRY

Martin A. Ziehbrunner, Essemtec

MASTER ENTREPRENEUR

Aimé Pouly (†), Pouly Tradition

2010

TRADE/SERVICES

Rolf Boffa, Qualipet

HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Moritz Lechner und Felix Mayer,
Sensirion

INDUSTRY

Christof und Markus Züger,
Züger Frischkäse

EMERGING ENTREPRENEUR

Dr. Sara und Christoph Hürlimann,
zahnarztzentrum.ch

2011

TRADE/SERVICES

Sébastien Tondeur, MCI Group Holding

HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Frank Ziemer, Ziemer Group

INDUSTRY

Kurt Schär, Biketec

EMERGING ENTREPRENEUR

Kai Glatt, The Rokker Company

2012

TRADE/SERVICES

André Lüthi, Globetrotter Group

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Dr. Riccardo Braglia, Helsinn Holding

EMERGING ENTREPRENEUR

Dr. Alexander Ilic, Dacuda

FAMILY BUSINESS

Claude R. Cornaz, Vetropack Holding

2013

TRADE/SERVICES

Deniz und Kadir Ugur,
Bentour Türkei-Reisen

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Rolf A. Sonderegger, Kistler Gruppe

EMERGING ENTREPRENEUR

Jan Schoch, Leonteq Securities

FAMILY BUSINESS

Christoph Tobler, Sefar Holding

MASTER ENTREPRENEUR

Hans Huber,
Ehrenpräsident der SFS Holding

2014

TRADE/SERVICES

Beat und Martin Jucker, Jucker Farm

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Otto Hofstetter, Otto Hofstetter Gruppe

EMERGING ENTREPRENEUR

Viktor Calabrò, Staff Finder

FAMILY BUSINESS

Hans R. und Thomas H. Rüegg,
Baumann Federn

2015

TRADE/SERVICES

Maxime Ballanfat, Novae Restauration

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Marcel und Roger Baumer,
Hälg Building Services Group

EMERGING ENTREPRENEUR

Dr. Jan Lichtenberg, InSphero

FAMILY BUSINESS

Dr. Pietro Supino, Tamedia

2016

TRADE/SERVICES

Olivier Brouhant, Amaris Group

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Willi Miesch, Medartis

FAMILY BUSINESS

Tej Tadi, MindMaze

FAMILY BUSINESS

Hans-Rudolf Schurter, Schurter Holding

2017

TRADE/SERVICES

Thomas Hanan, Webrepublic

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Paul J. Wyser, Wyon

EMERGING ENTREPRENEUR

Dr. Jurgi Camblong, Sophia Genetics

FAMILY BUSINESS

Max Renggli, Renggli

MASTER ENTREPRENEUR

Hansjörg Wyss, Wyss Foundation

2018

TRADE/SERVICES

Christina Mair, Caroline Staehelin und

Kristina Rebsamen, Globegarden

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Christian Brönnimann, Dectris

EMERGING ENTREPRENEUR

Daniela und Emanuel Steiner, Felfel

FAMILY BUSINESS

George, Roger, Corinne und Fabian Kuratle,
Kuratle Group

2019

TRADE/SERVICES

Fabio Ronga, beqom

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Ueli Jost, Veriset

EMERGING ENTREPRENEUR

Patrick Thévoz und Adrien Briod,

Flyability

FAMILY BUSINESS

Stefan und Christian Ganzoni,

SIGVARIS Holding

MASTER ENTREPRENEUR

Dr. Beat Curti, Serial Entrepreneur

2020

TRADE/SERVICES

Marek Dutkiewicz, HR Campus

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Avni Orllati, Groupe Orllati

FAMILY BUSINESS

Patrick Firmenich, Firmenich

EMERGING ENTREPRENEUR

Michael Born & Karim Nemr, PXL Vision

MASTER ENTREPRENEUR

Daniel Borel, Logitech

2021

TRADE/SERVICES

Stefan Muff, Axon Active Holding

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Carlo R. Centonze, HeiQ Materials

FAMILY BUSINESS

Markus Gericke, Gericke Group

EMERGING ENTREPRENEUR

Lukas Böni & Pascal Bieri, Planted Foods

2022

TRADE/SERVICES

Carsten Koerl, Sportradar

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Andreas Wältli, Evatec

FAMILY BUSINESS

Franziska Tschudi Sauber & Daniel Tschudi,

Weidmann Holding

EMERGING ENTREPRENEUR

Yann Cotte, Nanolive

2023

TRADE/SERVICES

Paul Fritz, Home Instead Holding

INDUSTRY/HIGH-TECH/LIFE SCIENCES

Luca Santarelli, VectivBio

FAMILY BUSINESS

Daniel Bossard, Bossard Group

EMERGING ENTREPRENEUR

Judith Häberli & Robert Ruttmann,

Urban Connect

Strong entrepreneurs have characterized the competition from the beginning. Of an average of 50 nominees per year, five at most will become an EY Entrepreneur Of The Year. The following entrepreneurs belong to this exclusive circle.

EY | Building a better working world

EY exists to build a better working world, helping to create long-term value for clients, people and society and build trust in the capital markets.

Enabled by data and technology, diverse EY teams in over 150 countries provide trust through assurance and help clients grow, transform and operate.

Working across assurance, consulting, law, strategy, tax and transactions, EY teams ask better questions to find new answers for the complex issues facing our world today.

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