AGC
NEBRASKA BUILDING CHAPTER
THE CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION

2026 Quality People Awards

And the winners are . . .

*The **Tradesperson Award** recognizes someone with five or more years of experience that is currently working in the field, who not only knows their tradecraft but is keen to develop it further, shows a commitment to their career and to the industry.*

2026 Tradesperson Award



Josh Goldsberry, 7er Construction

Josh Goldsberry is the kind of person you want on your team – experienced, dependable, skilled in his craft and willing to step in wherever he is needed. At 7er Construction, Josh has earned the reputation of being “the closer.” When something needs to get done, Josh gets it done.

Josh was 7er Construction’s very first employee when the company was founded four years ago, bringing years of experience on large, nationwide projects with him. Today he serves as Shop Manager and General Foreman, overseeing the tools, equipment and logistics that keep field teams moving, while stepping into the field for special projects. He is a trustworthy carpenter who needs little direction – he understands the work, asks what he needs to know, and gets in and out while maintaining the quality 7er is known for.

That dependability matters most when things don’t go to plan. When an emergency arises, a project requires a late night, or work has to happen over the weekend, Josh is always there to see it through – earning the trust of clients who know they can count on him. After 14 years in construction, Josh represents the kind of tradesperson our industry needs more of, and he sets the standard for the people working alongside him.

*The **Groundbreaker Award** recognizes an individual with five or less years of experience that demonstrates innovation, is a trendsetter and a developing leader.*

2026 Groundbreaker Award



Melissa Shepherd, Empire Netting and Fence

As Assistant Project Manager, Melissa has quickly established herself as an essential part of Empire's Sports Construction team, demonstrating exactly the initiative, adaptability and potential this award is meant to recognize.

Melissa entered a highly specialized area of construction and willingly took on responsibilities that require strong organization, technical understanding and constant coordination. She has become a key contributor in preconstruction – managing submittals, tracking material orders and deliveries, coordinating with vendors, and making sure projects are properly prepared before crews arrive in the field. Her work directly supports project managers, superintendents and field teams across a demanding portfolio of projects with unique scopes and schedules.

What makes Melissa stand out is her willingness to step beyond what is comfortable and keep learning. Rather than waiting for every answer, she asks thoughtful questions, finds solutions, and takes ownership of the next step. She has helped bring structure and consistency to the hand-off from estimating and preconstruction into purchasing and field execution – catching missing information and keeping important details from being overlooked. Melissa is early in her career, but she already has the mindset of a future leader

*The **Mentor Award** recognizes a front-line manager that supports the professional growth of other employees and inspires everyone to reach their full potential.*

2026 Mentor Award



Eric Brown, Kingery Construction Co.

Eric Brown has spent nearly 40 years in construction, more than 25 of them with Kingery. He started as a carpenter and worked his way up to foreman, site superintendent and now Safety Director. He has done every job on that path himself – and he uses that experience to help the people coming up behind him. The results show: many of his apprentices are now superintendents leading their own projects.

Eric is the person people go to first, whatever the crew or the problem. When a job five hours away needed help finishing its concrete, Eric drove out and worked beside the superintendent, teaching the proper and most efficient way to get it done. His mentoring doesn't end when the shift does – he picks up the phone after hours and talks younger workers through the hardships of the trade, because he has lived them.

For ten years Eric taught EMT and CPR courses at Southeast Community College, and for more than 20 years he built projects by day and answered emergency calls by night with Cass County Emergency Management and Raymond Fire and Rescue, where he rose to Assistant Fire Chief. When the Kingery team visited a local fire station, a firefighter recognized Eric as his mentor. Eric doesn't just build projects – he builds the people who build them.

*The **Innovator Award** honors those that contribute innovation, creativity, skills and integrity to projects consistently, along with being a good role model and promotor of construction careers.*

2026 Innovator Award



Kevin Kreger, On Point Construction & Design

Kevin began his construction career at age 17 as a carpenter in Chicago. Over more than two decades he has developed hands-on expertise in nearly every scope of construction – framing, concrete, electrical, plumbing, finish carpentry, roofing, flooring and historic restoration. He progressed from carpenter and foreman to project manager, and in 2016 founded On Point in Kearney, where he serves as Owner and President and has managed more than 125 ground-up commercial projects and renovations.

What sets Kevin apart is his ability to combine traditional craftsmanship with innovative thinking. He continually develops his skills through industry training, stays current on new materials and techniques, and brings creative problem-solving to complex challenges. His passion reaches beyond his day job – he is currently enrolled in a Historic Preservation graduate program at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. One project he is especially proud of is the restoration of an 1874 building in his hometown that sat vacant for 30 years, where he preserved its history while personally rebuilding features such as the oak entry doors. Kevin shows that construction is a career of craftsmanship, creativity, leadership and lifelong learning.

*The **Community Support** Award recognizes a member that uses their talents and leadership in and out of their workplace to support, promote and move the industry forward.*

2026 Community Supporter Award



John Sibley, Kiewit Building Group Inc.

John is a Senior Vice President and Project Director with Kiewit Building Group, where he helps lead projects and supports clients and stakeholders across Nebraska – especially on the UNMC and Nebraska Medicine campuses. He brings that same commitment to service to several Omaha organizations.

At the Nebraska Humane Society, John serves on the Facilities Committee and Founders Board, following previous service on the Board of Directors. He is an Executive Board member and Program Committee Chair for the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands. And at Siena Francis House, he serves as Executive Committee Secretary and chairs the Campus Planning & Security Committee, contributing to planning and safety for an organization that serves people in need.

John's roles across these organizations reflect a sustained commitment to animal welfare, youth programs, and support for people experiencing homelessness. His willingness to give his time and leadership across multiple boards and committees makes him a most deserving recipient of the Community Supporter Award.