

This, the fourth edition of our annual salute to rising stars in Georgia, may appear very similar to the previous three. There are lots of high-tech entrepreneurs, the folks who lead companies that have a dot-com at the end of the name. But don't be fooled - not all dot-coms are created equal. And besides, this year's group, which emerged from well over 100 nominees, is an eclectic one with a number of first.



Tammy Cohen started InfoMart 1989 with the goal of providing employers with an affordable way to screen applicants. What started with only a PC on payments is now the nation's largest privately owned screening company. InfoMart provides employers with criminal, credit and driving record data as well as job and education verification. Cohen has received the Cobb Small Business of the Year Award, the national YWCA's Women Entrepreneur Award and Georgia Women in Business honors.

Civil Activities: Immediate past board president of the YWCA of Cobb County; chair of the Kennesaw Regional Education Business School-to-Work initiative; and trustee of the Mt. Bethel Elementary School Foundation. Cohen participates on numerous committees that address issues relating to women, business and education.

Ambition: "To inspire a new generation of leaders who have vision, ambition and compassion."

People Admired: "Thomas Jefferson, who had all the qualities one should aspire to, and hotelier J.W. Marriott, for his commitment to family, customers and employees."

Best Advice Ever Received: "Luck is where opportunity meets preparation."

Georgia Wish List: "Better development of our work force. I'd like to see educational institutions and corporations working closely to develop and implement programs that improve the skills of those entering the work force as well as adults seeking professional advancement."

