

AWARDS

ATHENA YOUNG PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT



Bhawna Aggarwal (Sonia)

Bhawna “Sonia” Aggarwal is a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst and International Behavior Analyst licensed in Texas and North Carolina and registered in Ontario, Canada. With more than six years of clinical experience, she specializes in supporting autistic children and their families across home, clinic, and school settings. Sonia holds a master’s degree in Psychology and Applied Behavior Analysis from Eastern Kentucky University and a specialization in Autism and Behavioral Science from Mohawk College. She is the author of *Building Better Behavior: Unlocking Potential through Applied Behavior Analysis*, a peer reviewer for behavior analysts in practice, and serves on the Board of the South Carolina Autism Society and the Quality Committee of the College of Psychologists and Behavior Analysts of Ontario.

ATHENA LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT



Dr. Chandra Owenby Hopkins

Dr. Chandra Owenby Hopkins is Dean of the Converse College for Women at Converse University and an Associate Professor of Theatre. A scholar, author, and advocate for women’s leadership, she holds degrees from Brenau University, Virginia Commonwealth University, and the University of Kansas. Her teaching and research have earned multiple honors, and her recent book *Southern Stages: Space and Memory in U.S. Performance* was published in 2025. Passionate about leadership and mentorship, she leads community initiatives that connect corporate and nonprofit leaders across South Carolina and serves on several Spartanburg nonprofit boards.

SCMC MANUFACTURING WOMAN OF THE YEAR



Katherine Bergmann

Katherine Bergmann is Head of Communications and Community Relations for Volvo Car USA's first U.S. manufacturing plant in Ridgeville, South Carolina. Since joining Volvo in 2022, she has led internal communications, media relations, and community engagement, strengthening

connections between the company and the surrounding community.

With more than 15 years of experience, Katherine brings a global perspective shaped by academic and professional experiences in the United States and Germany. She holds a BA in International Trade and German from Clemson University and an MBA from Anhalt University of Applied Sciences.

A strong advocate for education and workforce development, she supports initiatives including Be A Mentor, Girls Day Out, and Tricounty STEMersion. At Volvo Cars, she launched the Volvo Accelerator Program, preparing graduating high school seniors for careers in automotive manufacturing.

PREVIOUS WINNERS

ATHENA YOUNG PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

2025- Shannon Todd
2024- Christiana Pott
2023- Daja Davidson
2022- Dr. Aditi Srivastav Bussells

ATHENA LEADERSHIP AWARD

2025- Karen Jenkins
2024- Frances Griggs
2023- Dr. Mary Holloway
2022- Dawn Staley

SCMC WOMAN OF THE YEAR

2025- Annekathrin Mueller
2024- Lindsay Leonard
2023- April Allen
2022- Jann Moore
2021- Barbara Melvin
2020- Sky Foster
2019- Lou Kennedy