



The 2021 **Women of Innovation®** by category, with their affiliated organizations:

Entrepreneurial Innovation and Leadership FINALISTS

- **Gunjan Bhardwaj**, COO | Vista IT Solutions, LLC
- **Carol Yvette Thorney**, Founder, President and CEO | Thorney Advisors

Research Innovation and Leadership FINALISTS

- **Martha Gilmore**, George I. Seney Professor of Geology | Wesleyan University
- **Amy Gorin**, Director | Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention and Policy, UConn
- **Xiuling Lu**, Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences | UConn School of Pharmacy
- **Nilanjana Maulik**, Professor | UConn School of Medicine, UConn Health
- **Codruta Zoican-Loebick**, Senior Research Engineer | Precision Combustion, Inc.

Small/Medium Business Innovation and Leadership FINALISTS

- **Erika Araujo**, Research Investigator | Arvinas, Inc.
- **Chun Li, Ph.D.**, VP, Informatics | Diameter Health
- **Billie Jo Mitchell**, VP, Manufacturing | RSL Fiber Systems, LLC
- **Melissa Tait**, Senior Vice President, Technology | Primacy
- **Marie Zuckerman**, Patent Agent | Precision Combustion, Inc.

Large Business Innovation and Leadership FINALISTS

- **Eileen Bartley**, Chief Engineer | Collins Aerospace
- **Laurie Chipperfield**, Senior Director, Chemical Research & Development | Pfizer
- **Jenny Gaffney**, Sr. Project Manager | The Walt Disney Company
- **Laura Macca**, Director, Business Transformation | EisnerAmper LLC
- **Megan Rosengarten**, President, Surgical Robotics | Medtronic
- **Carolyn Schreiber**, Cybersecurity Consulting Principal | Ernst & Young LLP (EY)
- **Christine Wetzel**, Manufacturing Technology Manager | 3M

Community Innovation and Leadership FINALISTS

- **Erica DePalma**, Senior Vice President, Digital Marketing | Media Horizons, LLC
- **Lila Lu**, F135 Earned Value Analyst | Pratt & Whitney
- **Lisa Roy**, Director of Government & Community Relations | The Jackson Laboratory
- **Adrienna Yan**, Design Engineer | Pratt & Whitney

Inspiring STEM Equitability Award FINALISTS

- **Anna Marie LaChance**, Ph.D. Candidate | UConn School of Engineering
- **Michelle Williams**, Associate VP for Research | University of Connecticut



Youth Innovation and Leadership FINALISTS

- **Sivani Arvapalli**, South Windsor High School
- **Emily Larkin**, Joel Barlow High School, Redding
- **Sarah Mensah**, Connecticut IB Academy, East Hartford
- **Alexandra Popescu**, Joel Barlow High School, Redding
- **Wendy Zhang**, Amity Regional High School, Woodbridge

Collegian Innovation and Leadership FINALISTS

- **Alexis Ernst**, Ph.D. Candidate, Materials Science & Engineering | University of Connecticut
- **Yikun Huang**, Ph.D. Candidate | University of Connecticut

Secondary Academic Innovation and Leadership FINALISTS

- **Nicole Ciccarelli**, 6th Grade Science Teacher | Windsor Locks Middle School
- **Amy Cornell**, Science Teacher, Robotics Coach, Health & Wellness Curriculum Coordinator | The Country School, Madison

Post-Secondary Academic Innovation and Leadership FINALISTS

- **Jacqueline Duncan**, Clinical Professor & Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs | UConn School of Dental Medicine
- **Andrea Kwaczala**, Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering | Western New England University

About the Connecticut Technology Council

The Connecticut Technology Council is a statewide association of technology-oriented companies and institutions, providing leadership in areas of policy advocacy, community building, and support for growing companies. The mission of the Connecticut Technology Council is to spark innovation, cultivate tech talent, foster business growth, advocate for industry-beneficial law and policy, expand the scope of industry networking and professional development, and celebrate industry achievements in the state. The CTC seeks to serve Connecticut's technology ecosystem by providing leadership, support, mentoring, and advocacy to companies across every industry and at every stage of growth. www.ct.org

About the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology

The Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology Inc. (CCAT) validates, demonstrates, and encourages the adoption of leading-edge technologies into global industrial companies and the advanced manufacturing supply chain, while also providing the training and education necessary to utilize the capability of these advancements and drive efficiency. CCAT, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, assists businesses in executing their continuous improvement strategies and collaborates with state, regional, and national partners in manufacturing, academia, government, and non-profit organizations in order to define and strengthen the future of the supply chain in the areas of advanced manufacturing, incumbent worker training, STEM awareness, and energy solutions. www.ccat.us