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Well-deserved honor for couple



Richard Sennott, Star Tribune

Ajasa Technologies: Husband-and-wife business owners Anthony and Shelleye Williamson, who have built the IT/management consulting/staffing company from a basement startup to a nearly \$50 million a year company, have been named Entrepreneurs of the Year by MEDA.

The MEDA 2008 Entrepreneurs of the Year are more than just shrewd businesspeople. They care about their community and employees.

By TODD NELSON, Special to the Star Tribune
Last update: June 15, 2009 - 10:41 AM

Building a basement start-up into a \$40 million-plus company probably could earn Tony and Shelleye Williamson -- founders of management and IT consulting company Ajasa Technologies -- special recognition.

But success alone is not why the Williamsons will be recognized Tuesday as Entrepreneurs of the Year for 2008 by the Metropolitan Economic Development Association (MEDA).

The honor, MEDA Executive Director Yvonne Cheung Ho said, has as much to do with the Williamsons' humility and philanthropic work. MEDA provides business consulting, financing and other services to companies owned or managed

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Awwww

So proud of my Aunt and Uncle! Congratulations and much continued success! Wish I could be there tomorrow!

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Student charged with keeping teachers from grading

Cool summer



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Business



UEL still finding its feet

by minorities.

"Even with their success, Tony and Shelleye have always been extremely humble," she said. "Tony is looked upon as a leader, a great employer and a role model in the community. And he gives back to causes he and Shelleye believe in. That's why we do what we do at MEDA."

The organizations the couple support include the Crystal Care Center, a nursing home in Crystal, and the Phyllis Wheatley Community Center, where they're helping to build a children's camp. They also contribute to a computer science scholarship fund for minority students.

"It's really important for Tony and I to stay humble," Shelleye Williamson said. "We're really grateful for what we have and try to always think about other people and do good work."

The Williamsons, in turn, attribute much of their success to MEDA.

"MEDA has been instrumental in building our business," Tony Williamson said. "If we didn't have them, I'm certain we wouldn't be where we are today."

Basement beginnings

He and his wife founded the company in 1995 for about \$150, or little more than the cost of incorporating. They've held the same roles from the start: He handles the business side and she oversees office functions.

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Jostens is still in business?
I thought they went bankrupt years ago. Huh, who knew?
posted by tbergman612 on Jun 15, 09 at 8:19 am |
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Cool
Sounds like a nice couple with good roots and simple goals. Good luck with the business.
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