9 Ways to Celebrate National Small Business Week May 5 - 11

National Small Business Week begins May 5, a time to celebrate the essential contributions of America's small business owners and entrepreneurs to our nation's economy. As a small business owner and entrepreneur, you are the backbone of the American economy - and a symbol of The American Dream.



1. Share Your Story: Inspire others to become an entrepreneur. Remind your community who you are and what you do - any why. Constant Contact started a # to encourage small biz owners to tell their stories: #MySmallBizWhy. Learn more at http://mysmallbizwhy.com/

2. Thank Your Employees and Customers: Without them, your business cannot succeed. Show customers how much you value their support, and prove to your employees that you know your business can't succeed without them.

3. Get Social: Follow the SBA and other supporters on social. Post about National Small Business Week using the #s: #SmallBusinessWeek, #NSBW, #SmallBiz

4. Offer a Promo: Attract new customers and thank loyal customers by offering a special promotion during National Small Business Week.

5. Promote Other Small Businesses: Partner up with other businesses in your community - down the block or in your digital space - to extend your reach and build your visibility - and your customer base!

6. Shop Local: You know how hard it is to run a small business. Support your fellow small biz owners and instead of shopping at the local big box store, buy from other local small business owners.

7. Reach Out To Your Local Chamber: There are many other government and nonprofits in your community who are there to support small business owners. The Chamber of Commerce, SCORE, Rotary and American Marketing Association probably have chapters in your area - or you should start one!

8. Talk to Media: Make sure your local media knows its National Small Business Week and share your story to inspire other people to become entrepreneurs.

9. Celebrate You: Owning a small business is hard work. And it can be lonely. Recognize your hard work and

accomplishments and do something for yourself. Whether its a massage, a