



Public Relations Contact:
Ann Almond
(404) 207-3817

2018 Georgia Minority Business Awards Dinner & Gala “The Year of the Entrepreneurs”

ATLANTA, GA -- On March 29, 2018 starting at 5:00pm at the Georgia International Convention Center (GICC), the Georgia Minority Business Awards (GMBA) will host their 21st annual awards reception and gala to celebrate minority businesses and entrepreneurs from around Georgia who are making an impact within their perspective communities. The Georgia Minority Business Awards represents all people, ethnicities, and cultures. The speakers, CEO's, minority business winners and scholarship recipients represent the best in success and exhibit these behaviors and values nationally and throughout the state of Georgia.

Our awards committee recognizes these superior qualities in performance, citizenship, leadership, ethical behavior, diversity and teamwork. These individuals share their philosophy for putting customers first, increasing the value of their companies and organizations, which make their workplace, a great place to work and have had a tremendous impact on the City of Atlanta and the State of Georgia. The host for this years' event is Atlanta's own Todd Gray, director of supplier diversity for Grady Health System. The keynote speaker for the evening will be James Bronner, the Show Director for the Bronner Bros. International Beauty Show, the largest multicultural beauty show in the world. Other special invited dignitaries that will be in attendance includes: Mayor Jack Longino, City of College Park; Vincent Jing-Yen Liu, Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Atlanta; and Felicia A. Moore, President of the Atlanta City Council.

“I started these award celebrations to simply acknowledge and congratulate local and small business men and women entrepreneurs who are trendsetters in their own right,” founder and Executive Director Creed W. Pannell, Jr. shared. “Planning to work the plan you create, is merely a good idea; working the plan to work for yourself – makes you an entrepreneur. Some of Atlanta's most respectable business leaders will be presenting awards this year to deserving innovators.”

In partnership with Business Development Initiative, Inc. (BDI), which is an entrepreneurial school for youth in high school and middle school, scholarships will be awarded to students at colleges and universities that have a focus on International Studies, IT partnership programs with business schools and MBA campaigns to promote future employment opportunities and corporate growth in Georgia. What began as merely a vision has turned into a successful annual award event, one in which businesses and entrepreneurs now look forward to being a part of each year. Many thanks to Creed W. Pannell, Jr. for his follow through with the vision and commitment to the leadership of the GMBA. The Year of the Entrepreneur is a theme worthy of repetition and recognition.

GMBA will honor the following individuals:

CEO Of the Year - Zsa Zsa Heard, CEO for the LaGrange Housing Authority; **Heritage Award - Cyrus Jackson**, CEO of Professional Products Unlimited Inc.; **Youth Entrepreneur of the Year Award - Sean Vincent**, CEO of Extra Mile Services;

Redevelopment and Revitalization Award - Brian Hooker, Executive Director of the Fort Mac LRA; **International Business of the Year Award - Sung Chang**, President and director of VIASPACE Green Energy Inc; **Commissioner of the Year Award - Dometrice “Dee” Clemmons**, Henry County Commissioner; **Neophyte of the Year Award - Simon Robinson**, Owner Simon Sign Systems; **Hartsfield-Jackson Entrepreneur of the Year Award - Jason and Tina Lu**, Owner & Operator Orient Express Chinese and Sushi restaurant; **Grady Health Care Industry Award - Priscilla Hubbard**, Executive Director of Atlanta Medical Association; **The Tenacity Award - Winston Johnson**, Founder of WinSonic Holdings, Ltd.; **Mayor of the Year - Mayor Vince Williams**, City of Union City **Educator of the Year Award - F. Stuart Gulley**, President of Woodward Academy

Our proud sponsors are: Georgia Minority Business Awards, Comcast Business, City of East Point, City of College Park, Creed Global Association, Grady Health System, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, 3 Day Website, Atlanta Business Journal, Business Development Initiative (BDI), Active Boomers Expo, Georgia Pacific, Dignity Memorial, Atlanta Medical Association, Winsonic Technologies, Henry County, GA, Woodward Academy, City of Union City, Russell, Lagrange Housing Authority, Viaspace Green Energy, Unity National Bank, Lincoln Financial and Simon Sign Systems.

About the Georgia Minority Business Awards:

The Georgia Minority Business Awards is mandated to evolve and effect change to sustain and propel the vision in this 21st century. The awards sponsoring magazine, the Atlanta Business Journal is proud to serve as a catalyst for a new generation of business owners which notably serve as a valuable trend indicator in “Building Cultural and Global Relationships.”

We embrace diversity, overcome cultural obstacles and continue to build global relationships. The amalgamation of minds forms partnerships thus creating common ground for success and achievement.

The names, Atlanta Business Journal and Georgia Minority Business Awards reflects our dedication to help generate awareness about the positive changes and the collective successes of the multi-cultural communities and we look forward to continuing to share and recognize those collective successes for years to come.

Date: March 29, 2018

Starting Time: 5:00

Location: Georgia International Convention Center (GICC)

2000 Convention Center Concourse, Atlanta, GA 30337

For tickets, please visit

<http://gaminoritybusinessawards.com/>

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