



2019 Supplier Diversity Award Winners

May 2, 2019 Awards Gala Honors Entrepreneurs and Leaders in Corporate Procurement

OAKLAND, Calif., May 2 -- The Western Regional Minority Supplier Development Council (WRMSDC), a local non-profit dedicated to promoting minority-owned businesses, announced the winners of its 2019 Excellence in Supplier Diversity Awards on May 2, 2019 at Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery in Pleasanton, CA.

Corporate Members and certified Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) competed for awards celebrating individual and corporate advocacy, MBE development, and partnership with WRMSDC. Award winners are recognized for their commitment to Supplier Diversity and outstanding efforts in advancing purchasing opportunities for minority-owned businesses.

The 2019 Excellence in Supplier Diversity Award Winners are as follows:

All Money is Green: World Wide Technology was recognized as a dedicated community leader with excellent service, support, and innovation that works to do business with other MBE companies.

Ambassador of the Year: Scott A. Vowels, Apple, won this award for his service as one of WRMSDC's most powerful advocates within the community and throughout the network of current and prospective MBEs and Corporate Members.

Buyer of the Year: Toni Tran, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, was recognized for finding creative ways to engage MBEs; high level of dedication to increasing spend with MBEs and engaging with the Supplier Diversity team to help support sourcing needs.

Collaborator: Lynn Reddrick, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, was recognized as an incredible supporter who has served as a generous partner, matching WRMSDC stride-for-stride in impacting communities of color.

Cornerstone of the Year: World Wide Technology was named by the WRMSDC awards judges as an innovative, inclusive champion that prioritizes mentorship, community, and generosity.

Executive of the Year: Dr. Ronald L. Copeland, Kaiser Permanente was recognized as a strategic leader driving an inclusive culture and building a legacy of mentorship and commitment; a champion who includes Supplier Diversity in his holistic (and therefore sustainable) approach to diversity and inclusion.

Innovator: Tracey Somerville, EY, received this award for her willingness to go above and beyond for WRMSDC and her exceptional ability to not only create and recognize great ideas, but also turn those ideas into actionable strategies that make a difference in the lives of our diverse suppliers.

Kathleen Trimble Legend: Kathleen Trimble, Robert Half, won this inaugural award for her service as an industry leader and legend in the field who has spent her life serving diverse communities. In subsequent years, the award will go to individuals who embody Trimble's spirit of wisdom, leadership, and philanthropy.

Local Corporation of the Year: CSAA Insurance Group was recognized as a results-oriented and community-focused leader with aggressive goals, C-Level support, and high impact.



MBE Choice: Pacific Gas and Electric Company is a true partner to the MBE community that works with their suppliers to identify opportunities now and in the future.

National Corporation of the Year: Kaiser Permanente was recognized as a company that embodies leadership with dedication, heart, and passion; possesses innovation and a true sense of community giveback; and is committed to development, impact, and achievement.

President's Choice: Richard D. Daniels, Kaiser Permanente, was recognized not only as a respected leader in the Information & Technology Community, but someone who is also admired by his colleagues at Kaiser Permanente for his commitment to diversity and inclusion.

Prime Supplier of the Year Award: Cardinal Health was recognized as a company with global perspective and an open environment that focuses on mentorship, training, and promoting diverse suppliers.

Procurement Leader of the Year Award: Jessica Rosman, Caesars Entertainment, was chosen to receive this prestigious award and was named by WRMSDC awards judges as a results-driven and engaging advocate who shows personal commitment, active leadership, and relevancy.

Supplier of the Year winners demonstrate excellence in their services and products while showing growth in sales and job creation:

Class 2 Winner (annual sales of \$1-10 million): Branch Benefits Consultants from Nevada was named by the judges as loyal, evolving, driven, honorable, and caring.

Class 3 Winner (annual sales of \$10-50 million): Alisto Engineering from California was lauded by judges as a loyal, caring, motivated, resilient, and innovative community partner with steady growth and unique ideas. Robert Half provided the winner with a scholarship to JFK University's Business Growth Acceleration Program (BGAP) in the fall.

Class 4 Winner (annual sales greater than \$50 million): Rose International from Missouri was recognized as a forward-thinking, community service-oriented example of MBEs supporting other MBEs. They are exceptionally committed to their business, team, and community.

Supplier Diversity Leader of the Year Award: Angela Freeman, MGM Resorts International, was named as an impressive, progressive, engaged, passionate, and caring supporter who helps competitive and capable diverse businesses.

Warrior Award: Lizzy Larman was recognized for her spirit and determination in giving back to the Minority Business community.

In addition to the award winners, Bob Thompson II, Lockheed Martin was honored for his long service to WRMSDC and the Supplier Diversity community. His wisdom and leadership are an inspiration to all who know him.

The WRMSDC Awards Gala was supported by Ben's Roofing, Inc., Robert Half, Kaiser Permanente, Shaw-Lundquist Associates, Inc., Google, EY, Caesars Entertainment, MGM Resorts Entertainment, CSAA, Apple, SBM Management Services, Guy Brown, Cisco, Southwest Gas, Plastikon, CalWater, CLEAResult, Federal Reserve Bank San Francisco, Way To Be, and San Francisco Business Times.



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About WRMSDC

The Western Regional Minority Supplier Development Council (WRMSDC) supports the growth and business development of minority communities by championing the use of minority-owned businesses in Northern California, Nevada, and Hawai'i. Please visit us online at wrmsdc.org.