



2024 Excellence in Supplier Diversity Awards Gala Winners

May 10, 2024 Awards Gala Honors Entrepreneurs and Leaders in Corporate Procurement

Oakland, CA- The Western Regional Minority Supplier Development Council (WRMSDC), a local non-profit dedicated to promoting minority-owned businesses, announced the winners of its 2024 Excellence in Supplier Diversity Awards on May 10, 2024, at Oakland Scottish Rite in Oakland CA.

The event commenced with WRMSDC staff marching to the stage to the tune of "The Greatest Showman," led by Sheena Lyons, Director of Events, as the video clip played on the big screen. Following this was an introductory video about equity and inclusion, and an inspiring keynote speech from transformational leader, Sheryl Grant. Gala emcees Donna Ruff (WRMSDC), Christine Maddela (Storyville RD), Lili Kwan (Salesforce), and Roger Cheng (AT&T) introduced Headline Supporter, Diversified Protection Corporation, as well as short sizzle reels from WRMSDC MBE Platinum Partners Certus Cybersecurity Solutions LLC, Diversified Protection Corporation, Eagle Promotions, iTalent Digital, Rose International, S+B James Construction, SBM Management LP, Stratascale - an SHI Company, World Wide Technology Inc, and Zones Inc.

This signature event featured an entertainment fundraiser titled "Groove for Good: A Dance Battle for Charity," where two teams of four competed in a dance-off in both individual and team performances. Three judges decided on the winning team. All funds raised during the Dance Battle went towards supporting the WRMSDC's mission. A silent auction fundraiser was also held during the event. At the conclusion of the awards program, Sheena Lyons, Director of Events, closed out the Awards Gala with a message celebrating the theme "This is Me: A Grand Celebration of Diversity," and honored WRMSDC's Vice President of Program Development and Minority Business Services, V Liwai Garcia, for fifteen years of service.

The WRMSDC is grateful for the support of the Excellence in Supplier Diversity Awards Gala & Fundraiser from the following companies: Diversified Protection Corporation, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Google, EY, Genentech, SBM Management, MGM Resorts International, Kaiser Permanente, Apple Inc, University of California San Francisco (UCSF), Turner Construction, CSAA, Salesforce, T-Mobile, Workday, Southwest Gas, Siemens, East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD), ATR International, Way To Be, and Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. The WRMSDC would also like to thank this year's Make A Difference Supporters: AMN Healthcare, Apple Inc, SBM Management, California Department of Transportation (CalTrans), Cal Water Association, Gilead, Robert Half, and T-Mobile.

Corporate Members and certified Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) competed for awards celebrating individual and corporate advocacy, MBE Development, and partnership with WRMSDC.

The 2024 Excellence in Supplier Diversity Award Winners are:

Activator Award (Honoree): Roger Cheng

Ambassador Award (Honoree): Sam Sharma – Saitech, Inc

Collaborator Award (Honoree): Amy Clark – Aristocrat Gaming

Community Builder Award (Honoree): McCarthy Building Companies, Inc

Enrichment Award (Honoree): Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Four Pillars Award (Honoree): JPMorgan Chase & Co

Guardian Award (Honoree): T-Mobile

Kathleen Trimble Legend Award (Honoree): Mario Stadlander – Eagle Promotions

Nevada Spirit Award (Honoree): Christine Maddela

President's Award (Honoree): Theresa Harrison – EY

Unsung Hero Award (Honorees): Julia Reynolds | Alan McIntosh & Wayne Beasley – Way To Be | Lynn

Reddrick – Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco

All Money is Green Award: Diversified Protection Corporation

Buyer of the Year Award: Tina Itschner – MGM Resorts International

Cornerstone of the Year Award: OSI Engineering

Executive of the Year Award: Madison Gunter III – Salesforce

Local Corporation of the Year Award: Southwest Gas

MBE Input Committee People’s Choice Award: Will Jackson – US Bank

National Corporation of the Year Award: Salesforce

Prime Supplier of the Year Award: AMN Healthcare

Procurement Leader of the Year Award: Ketan Shah – Kaiser Permanente

Supplier Diversity Leader of the Year Award: David Pell – Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Supplier of the Year Awards are awarded to certified MBEs that demonstrate excellence in their services and products and show growth in sales and job creation.

Class 1 (Annual Sales Less than \$1 million): R Mo Global Diversity Solutions

Class 2 (Annual Sales between \$1 million and \$10 million): Mothership Coffee LLC

Class 3 (Annual Sales between \$10 million and \$50 million): Blair, Church, & Flynn Consulting Engineers

Class 4 (Annual Sales above \$50 million): Novo Construction

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 www.wrmsdc.org.

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