

# DAILY BREEZE

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## South Bay workforce agency celebrates community members, partners



More than 500 representatives from a cross-sector of the society attended the SBWIB's 28th Awards Ceremony in Torrance on Thursday, Nov. 9. (Courtesy of the South Bay Workforce Investment Board).



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The South Bay Workforce Investment Board recently honored its partners and community members for their contributions to society during its annual awards ceremony.

More than 500 community members attended the organization's 28th awards ceremony last week in Torrance to celebrate the achievement of the SBWIB community.

The top award, the Esther Williams Award of Excellence, went to Northrop Grumman Corporation, with Inglewood Mayor James T. Butts, Jr., a past recipient of the award, presenting it to the aerospace company.

The aerospace company was recognized for "its many years of support to the SBWIB," a press release said, "and for its visionary approach in expanding apprenticeship programs and ongoing commitment to excellence and community engagement."

Cindy Egan, vice president of Advanced Mission Systems at Northrop Grumman, said in a statement that the organization is "incredibly grateful and proud" of its partnership with SBWIB and El Camino College.

"Together," she said, "we are lifting up our community through skills developed and used here at home in the South Bay."

Other past recipients of the esteemed award include Linda Bradley, former CEO of Centinela Valley Hospital Medical Center, and Dennis Fitzgerald, former vice president of operations for Impresa Aerospace, LLC, in Gardena. Last year, the award went to retiring Hawthorne City Councilmember Olivia J. Valentine.

During the Thursday, Nov. 9, ceremony, SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel also paid tribute to past SBWIB Chair Wayne Spencer, who died earlier this year.

The inaugural Wayne Spencer Community Service Award went to the Beach Cities Health District. The organization was honored for its service to the community over the past 25 years and, the SBWIB press release said, for "its initiative to become part of the allcove network of integrated youth mental health centers throughout California."



Representatives of the Beach Cities Health District, who received the inaugural Wayne Spencer Community Service Award, posed for a group photo during SBWIB's 28th Awards Ceremony on Thursday, Nov. 9. (Courtesy of the South Bay Workforce Investment Board).

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A total of 87 individuals, businesses, event sponsors and training partners from Carson, El Segundo, Gardena, Hawthorne, Inglewood, Torrance, Lawndale, Lomita and Redondo Beach were celebrated at the ceremony.



Adult and youth award recipients posed for a group photo at SBWIB's 28th Awards Ceremony on Thursday, Nov. 9, in Torrance. (Courtesy of the South Bay Workforce Investment Board).

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