



**PRESS RELEASE**

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South Bay Workforce Investment Board  
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**South Bay Workforce Investment Board 25th Annual Awards Ceremony  
Attracts Virtual Audience of nearly 300 Community Partners,  
Elected Officials and Award Recipients**

**HAWTHORNE** -The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) presented its 25th Annual Awards Ceremony before a virtual audience of nearly 300 participants, October 28th that featured both live and pre-recorded speakers in a one-hour presentation.

SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel served as master of ceremonies for the program and highlighted some of the many accomplishments and innovative programs that the SBWIB has developed over the past 38 years. Of special note, he reflected on the most recent accomplishments, "the South Bay WIB placed about 1,000 new apprentices into the construction trades for the SoFi Stadium project in Inglewood and some related projects, and what we are real proud of is that about half of those individuals are African American," Mr. Vogel said.

Several elected officials provided welcoming and congratulatory messages. Among them were Congresswoman Maxine Waters, Inglewood Mayor James T. Butts, Jr., Assemblywoman Autumn Burke, Assemblyman Mike Gipson and Carson Mayor Albert Robles. SBWIB Chairman of the Board of Directors Wayne Spencer also provided a welcome message.

Mr. Vogel extended special gratitude to the 28 sponsors that provided financial support to the event including the Presenting Sponsors Southern California Edison and Inglewood Game Changer-Clippers Arena. Numerous attendees shared congratulatory messages in the chat section of the broadcast honoring the SBWIB for "its many great years of changing lives and keeping the South Bay great."

The SBWIB Community Partner Award was presented to Dr. Dena Maloney, Superintendent and President of El Camino College. Mr. Vogel praised her for many years of involvement with the SBWIB and many collaborations including the South Bay Promise Program. Dr. Maloney is retiring at the end of the school year.

The Esther Williams Award of Excellence, SBWIB's most prestigious award, was presented to Dr. James Limbaugh, President of West Los Angeles College. Mr. Vogel noted that Dr. Limbaugh is a visionary who strives to enhance student academic success as a community goal. Thanks to his priority to establish academic programs and services that reflect the needs of the region, the college collaborated with SBWIB to create an apprenticeship program in aerospace engineering that became the first apprenticeship of its kind to be certified by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Seven South Bay based small and large businesses were honored for their proactive efforts to work with the SBWIB in placing qualified job applicants into subsidized On-The-Job Training and apprentice positions. They included: Casa Bella Properties in Lawndale; Cilajet Aviation Grade in Gardena; Hollywood Park Casino, SoFi Stadium and Servicon Systems, Inc in Inglewood; Morf3D in El Segundo, and Always Best Care in Manhattan Beach.



www.sbwib.org

Twenty individual success stories were featured out of the thousands of individuals who went through the SBWIB program throughout the SBWIB's service area in the South Bay. Those twenty individuals were recognized for their success in overcoming severe obstacles to gain full time employment.

Final recognition went to the many SBWIB training providers throughout the greater LA County region, who successfully placed job seekers into full time positions.

The SBWIB operates four One Stop Business & Career Centers within its South Bay service area plus two Teen Centers in Inglewood and Hawthorne providing no cost adult, youth and business services. During the current pandemic crisis, individuals and business operators needing services must call ahead to schedule an appointment. For further information, please call (310) 970-7700 or visit [www.sbwib.org](http://www.sbwib.org)

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Jan Vogel: "Thank you to our valued city partners; City of Inglewood, City of Hawthorne, City of Torrance, City of Gardena, City of Lawndale, City of El Segundo, City of Carson, City of Lomita, City of Redondo Beach, City of Manhattan Beach, and City of Hermosa Beach; and thank you for your continued support and help to make a difference in the lives of so many."