



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

South Bay Workforce Investment Board
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SOUTH BAY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD HONORS EL CAMINO COLLEGE PRESIDENT, DR. THOMAS FALLO, PARTICIPANTS, EMPLOYERS AND TOP TRAINING PROVIDERS AT MILESTONE 20TH ANNIVERSARY ALUMNI AWARDS CEREMONY

HAWTHORNE – The 20th Annual South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) Alumni Awards Ceremony attracted more than 400 civic leaders, employers, training providers and graduates of job and career training programs. The event, held at the Torrance Double Tree Inn, celebrated the outstanding accomplishments of the workforce investment community during the past year. Retiring El Camino College President, Dr. Thomas Fallo, was presented with the SBWIB's highest award, the Esther Williams Award of Excellence.

Among those in attendance were keynote speaker, US Congresswoman Maxine Waters, State Senators Isadore Hall III – 35th District, Ben Allen – 26th District, Assembly member David Hadley – 66th District, Inglewood Mayor James T. Butts, Jr., Lawndale Mayor Robert Pullen-Miles, Torrance Mayor Patrick Furey, and a host of other civic leaders and elected officials.

Congresswoman Waters praised the SBWIB for being one of the top performing WIBs in the state, consistently exceeding each of the Department of Labor performance standards. She also recognized the SBWIB's as a recipient of the National Association of Workforce Investment Boards WIB Excellence Award.

SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel and Wayne Spencer, Chairman of the SBWIB Board of Directors, served as co-masters of ceremonies. Mr. Spencer presented individual awards to 13 graduates who had successfully gained employment after completing career and vocational training through the SBWIB One-Stop Business & Career Centers. The award recipients were: Katrina Augustine (Hawthorne), Aka Brown (Carson), Ruben Calvillo (Gardena), Gabriela Cerpa (Gardena), Larry Finley (Carson), Marlene Grosch (Redondo Beach), Debra Jackson (Gardena), Paul Jones (Inglewood), Guillermo Madrid (Hermosa Beach), Sean Paine (Redondo Beach), Salvador Tapia (Lawndale), Jenny Victorio (Inglewood), and Destiny Williams (Redondo Beach).

Mr. Spencer read a brief summary of a few of the individual success stories that came about despite the personal barriers, severe obstacles, and the economic downturn, and then recognized eight outstanding employers and organizations who collectively hired dozens of participants over the year. They included Centinela Hospital Medical Center, Chevron Products Company, Northrop Grumman Corporation, Parker Hannifin, Republic Services Inc., SpaceX, Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce, Zephyr Tool Group.

While presenting the Esther Williams Award of Excellence, Inglewood Mayor James T. Butts, Jr., a former award recipient himself, cited El Camino College's growth and progress during Dr. Fallo's tenure.

The evening program included photo and video presentations, as well as live entertainment from singer Lou Giovannetti, accompanied by pianist George Emmerson. The evening also featured singer and recording artist, Brenna Whitaker, whose self-titled debut album is set to be released on November 6, 2015.

For more information on the Annual Alumni & Awards Breakfast please call Jan Vogel at (310) 970-7700.



Inglewood Mayor, James T. Butts Jr. presents retiring El Camino College President, Dr. Thomas Fallo, with the 2015 Esther Williams Award.