



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 2, 2016

April Youngblut | (703) 408-5403

America's SBDCs and SBDC Clients Recognized at National Small Business Week

Burke, VA. May 2, 2016 - [America's SBDC](#) is excited to announce that the Charleston Small Business Development Center in South Carolina and three SBDC clients from around the country, were acknowledged and awarded at this year's National Small Business Week. National Small Business Week honors America's 28 million small businesses and their entrepreneurial, innovative and resilient spirit that serves as the backbone of the American economy.

"It's always a pleasure to recognize all the achievements of small business and the immense strength they bring to our economy, it's too bad we can't make every week Small Business week. It's a particular pleasure to recognize all the SBDC clients who are being recognized for their success. America's SBDCs are proud to be a part of their story and to be able help them makes their dreams a reality. But don't forget that SBDCs are there for every small business, every week!" said Charles "Tee" Rowe, America's SBDC President & CEO.

The national SBDC winner and national SBDC client winners listed below were invited to a recognition ceremony hosted by SBA at the Smithsonian and the Institute of Peace on May 1st & 2nd in Washington, D.C.

NATIONAL WINNERS

2016 Small Business Development Center Excellence & Innovation Winner

[Charleston Area Small Business Development Center](#)

North Charleston, South Carolina

Tom Lauria, Director

2016 Phoenix Award for Outstanding Small Business Disaster Recovery

Stephen and Maryann Piazza, Owners, Majestic Vending and Services

(New York SBDC)

2016 Exporter of the Year

Mr. David Bello, Sr., President and Mr. John Hartnett, VP Global Business Development, Endoscopy Replacement Parts, Inc.

(Florida SBDC)

8(a) Graduate

Diana Lewis Jackson, President & CEO of Action Facilities Management, Inc.

(West Virginia SBDC)

For more information on additional SBDC State, Regional and District National Small Business Week Winners visit our website: www.AmericasSBDC.org.

About America's SBDC and Small Business Development Centers: [America's SBDC](http://www.AmericasSBDC.org) represents the Nation's 63 Small Business Development Centers, a national network of partnerships uniting higher education, state and local nonprofit economic development organizations, private enterprise and government. It is the Small Business Administration's largest partnership program, providing management and technical assistance to help Americans start, run and grow their own businesses. Learn more at www.AmericasSBDC.org.