



## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **America's SBDCs and SBDC Clients Honored at National Small Business Week**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** - [The America's SBDC](http://www.americas-sbdc.org) network has been honored with ten National Small Business Week awards in eight states. In addition 26 SBDC clients have been nominated for the "Small Business Person of the Year" Award. National Small Business Week, the annual event hosted by the U.S. Small Business Administration to recognize the nation's top small businesses, entrepreneurs, small business advocates and champions. All of those awarded and nominated have been selected for the exemplary work they do in the small business community.

#### **SBDC Honors**

ARIZONA

##### **Service Excellence and Innovation**

Ellen Kirton, Microbusiness Advancement Center SBDC

GEORGIA

##### **Service Excellence and Innovation**

Kennesaw State University SBDC

NEW MEXICO

##### **Veteran Small Business Champion of the Year**

Adolfo Velasquez, Procurement Technical Assistance Advisor/Veteran's Specialist

NEW YORK

##### **Excellence in Government Team**

Frank Sciortino, Buffalo District

NORTH CAROLINA

##### **Women's Business Advocate of the Year**

Annice Brown, Asst. Regional Director, SBTDC at Western Carolina University

OHIO

##### **Service Excellence and Innovation**

Ryan Mapes, Director, Piketon, Ohio - The Ohio SBDC at Ohio State University South Centers

**Financial Services Champion of the Year**

David Rivers, Certified Business Advisor at the Ohio SBDC at Columbus State Community College

**Service Excellence and Innovation**

Ohio SBDC at Lorain County Community College

**SOUTH DAKOTA**

**Financial Services Advocate of the Year**

Mark Slade, Associate State Director, SD SBDC - Sioux Falls

**TEXAS**

**SBDC of the Year**

UTSA International Trade Center, South-West Texas Border SBDC Network

"We are thrilled to have so many of our SBDCs acknowledged for their hard work and dedication to the success of small business," said Charles "Tee" Rowe, America's SBDC President & CEO. "The success and acknowledgement of our network's clients is a testament to the importance of the business assistance we offer and its effect on small business."

From architecture to bakeries, to consulting firms and woodworking - these are just a few of the businesses that will be recognized by the U.S. Small Business Administration this year in Washington, D.C., May 15-16. Small Business Person of the Year winners from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Guam will gather in Washington during National Small Business Week where one of them will be selected as the 2014 National Small Business Person of the Year.

**SBDC CLIENT HONORS**

**ALABAMA**

**Small Business Person of the Year**

Mr. Harvey Nix, CEO of Proventix Systems

**FLORIDA**

**Small Business Person of the Year**

Dr. Amir Varshovi, Green Technologies, LLC,

**Small Business Exporter of the Year**

Carlton Smith, Heavy Equipment Resources of Florida, Inc. (HERO)

**Small Business Media Advocate of the Year**

Patrick Faherty, Citrus County Chronicle

**Woman-Owned Small Business Person of the Year**

Jing Zhou, Interventions Unlimited, Inc. **V**

**eteran-Owned Small Business Person of the Year**

Jack Corthell, Installation Services, Inc.

**Veteran-Owned Small Business Person of the Year**

Moses Harvin, American Services Technology, Inc.

**Minority Owned Small Business Person of the Year**

Patricia Bonilla, Lunacon Engineering

IDAHO

**Small Business Person of the Year**

Gary Multanen, CEO of Best Bath Systems

NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Woman Owned Business of the Year**

K9Kaos

**Young Entrepreneurs of the Year**

Sap House Meadery

**Family Owned Business of the Year**

Jeffrey Butland , Studley Flower Gardens

NEW YORK

**Small Business Exporter of the Year**

Brotherhood, America's Oldest Winery

**Young Entrepreneur of the Year**

Brian Junke, Lock 34 Bar & Grill

**Phoenix Award for Outstanding Contribution to Disaster Recovery**

Gianna P. Cerbone-Teoli, Manducatis Rustica VIG

**Veteran Small Business Champion of the Year** Ryan Letts

NORTH CAROLINA

**Small Business Exporter of the Year**

Freddy Cannady, Vesocclude Medical, LLC - a medical device manufacturer

NORTH DAKOTA

**Small Business Person of the Year**

Dean Atchison, Spectrum Aeromed

SOUTH DAKOTA

**Small Business Person of the Year**

Ryan McFarland, Strider Sports International

**Veteran-Owned Business of the Year**

AT Analytical, Inc.

TEXAS

**Small Business Person of the Year**

Gregory Hudson at Genesis Concepts & Consultants

**Young Entrepreneur of the Year**

John Lee Stoiloff, Stoiloff Insurance Agency

**Family Owned Small Business of the Year**

Marvin Groves, Jr.; CEO, Marvin Groves Electric Co, Inc.

WYOMING

**Small Business Person of the Year**

Jennifer C. Merrill, President, Merrill, Inc.

**Young Entrepreneur of the Year**

Derek Johnson, President, Cowboy Donuts, Inc.

**Small Business Exporter of the Year**

Mitchell M. Bangert, Owner, Designer and Founder, Offero, LLC

[America's SBDC](#) (Small Business Development Center) Network is a partnership uniting private enterprise, government, higher education and local nonprofit economic development organizations. 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. With about 1,000 centers across the nation, America's SBDC network provided business consulting to approximately 200,000 clients, training for more than 400,000 attendees, and other forms of management and technical assistance to approximately 600,000 small businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs last year. Learn more at [www.asbdc-us.org](http://www.asbdc-us.org).

For additional information on National Small Business Week, please visit <http://www.sba.gov/smallbusinessweek>

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