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Minority Business Hall of Fame executives congratulate 2016 inductees, their families and colleagues on their prestigious accomplishment. From left: Lou Switzer, founder, chairman and CEO, The Switzer Group Inc.; MBHF&M President and co-founder John F. Robinson, also president and CEO, National Minority Business Council; Darryl H. Dennis and Maya Dennis, husband and daughter of inductee Tracey Pinson (posthumously), former director of small/diverse business and strategic alliances for Boeing Defense, Space &

Security, a division of The Boeing Co.; Claire P. Scanlon, vice president and head of supplier diversity, The Bank of New York Mellon Corp.; Rosa Santana, CEO of Integrated Human Capital International LLC; Jessica Narvaez, chief diversity officer, Pinnacle Group (accepted on behalf of inductee Nina Vaca, chairman and CEO, Pinnacle Group); Billion Dollar Roundtable Inc. co-founder, President and CEO Sharon Patterson; and BDR and MBHF&M co-founder Don McKneely, founder and chairman, Minority Business News USA.

Minority Business Hall of Fame and Museum inducts six

Minority Business Hall of Fame and Museum Inc., in collaboration with the University of Washington Foster School of Business, recently inducted six minority business pioneers and advocates at an awards ceremony in New York.

This year's inductees were Billion Dollar Roundtable Inc.; Claire P. Scanlon, vice president and head of supplier diversity, The Bank of New York Mellon Corp., New York City; Lou Switzer, founder, chairman and CEO of The Switzer Group Inc., New York City; Rosa Santana, CEO of Integrated Human Capital International LLC, El Paso, Texas; Tracey Pinson (posthumously), former director of small/diverse busi-

ness and strategic alliances for Boeing Defense, Space & Security, a division of The Boeing Co., Berkeley, Missouri; and Nina Vaca, chairman and CEO of Pinnacle Group, Dallas, Texas.

Joseph Frederick Canady, outgoing MBHF&M chairman, noted that over 60 individuals and institutions "whose influence have paved the way for minority businesses" have been inducted since the event's inception in 2005.

John F. Robinson, MBHF&M president and co-founder as well as president and CEO of the National Minority Business Council, echoed Canady's sentiments as he praised the "pioneers and trailblazers who've made minority

business development what it is today" and spoke of a shared dedication to "help grow the next crop of minority business entrepreneurs."

Michael Verchot, director of the Consulting and Business Development Center of the University of Washington Foster School of Business, an MBHF&M partner, told the audience that the role of the academic business school is to "educate and inspire the next generation of minority entrepreneurs." He called the inductees "role models for our students and business students nationwide."

John M. Roy, BNY Mellon executive vice president and chief operating
(continued on page 194)

awards and recognition



MBHF&M leadership attending the induction ceremony included (from left): New MBHF&M Chairman Ricardo Barrientos, director of supplier diversity at PepsiCo Inc., MBHF&M corporate sponsor; Joseph Frederick Canady, MBHF&M chairman emeritus; Robinson; Carol Daugherty Foster, MBHF&M co-founder and vice president; and McKneely

(continued from page 192)
officer, the official host on behalf of the bank, congratulated the inductees and noted the bank's early and ongoing commitment to minority business development.

Don McKneely, co-founder of the MBHF&M and the Billion Dollar Roundtable as well as chairman and founder of Minority Business News USA, thanked the sponsors and applauded the inductees.

PepsiCo, founding MBHF&M corporate sponsor, is joined this year by sponsors IBM, Northrop Grumman and Toyota Motor North America.

"I remain excited by the incredible talent and experience of the inductees past and present who have helped shape minority business development," said Carol Daugherty Foster, co-founder of the Minority Business Hall of Fame and Museum, president of Carol and Company, and the master of ceremonies for the induction ceremony.

MBHF&M board director Michael K. Robinson, program director for global supplier diversity at IBM, credited the event for recognizing "pioneers and or-

ganizations who have had a significant impact on the diversity movement."

He added that the first inductee, The Billion Dollar Roundtable, "brings together corporations to make meaningful contributions to supplier diversity growth."

BDR President and CEO Sharon Patterson said, "When you're first, you lead the way. We try to find emerging themes and share them with all of you."

The family of inductee Pinson accepted her posthumous honor. Husband Darryl Dennis said that Pinson's "zest and zeal for small business" had "carved a pathway" and helped many African-Americans rise to senior levels. He praised daughter Maya for having "picked up the mantle" of her mother through her work at Hewlett-Packard Co.

Chuck Hendrix, senior manager of supplier diversity, Toyota Motor North America, introduced inductee Integrated Human Capital's Rosa Santana, the automaker's first female, Hispanic Tier I supplier. Santana thanked the MBHF&M for "making it your mission to see us succeed" and the companies "who are our champions."

Robinson praised inductee Scanlon,

vice president global procurement of supplier diversity at BNY Mellon, for making BNY Mellon's supplier diversity initiative "accountable to all ethnicities and award-winning."

Foster introduced inductee Switzer, who spoke of the extraordinary group who "have pushed boundaries and broken down barriers." He encouraged "young people to set their sights on a goal and pour themselves into it."

Jessica Narvaez, chief diversity officer at Pinnacle Group, accepted on behalf of inductee Vaca, who was unable to attend. She sent her thanks, cheered the "impressive" inductees and commended the commitment "to preserving pioneers in the development of minority businesses."

In his closing remarks, new MBHF&M Chair Ricardo Barrientos, director of supplier diversity at PepsiCo, said he was proud to "perpetuate the legacy" of his company's support and long held belief that "diversity helps build businesses." He asked all to "honor the past, help shape the future" and to "help us keep growing."

(continued on page 196)

ABOUT THE INDUCTEES:



Billion Dollar Roundtable Inc. is a not-for-profit organization providing thought leadership and solution-driven exploration of key issues and best practices in supplier diversity. BDR member companies – among the world's largest and most important business firms – each spend \$1 billion or more annually for a broad range of goods and services from certified Tier I companies owned by minorities and/or women. BDR was founded in 2001 by Don McKneely, chairman and CEO, TexCorp Communications Inc.; Sharon Patterson, president and CEO, Billion Dollar Roundtable Inc.; and Shirley Harrison (retired). Rick Hughes, a retired chief procurement officer with The Procter & Gamble Co., serves as the current BDR chairman.



Claire P. Scanlon leads the supplier diversity program as vice president of BNY Mellon in New York City. She was instrumental in creating and developing the company's program, which was established in 1994 to promote the use of small and diverse-owned businesses, along with minority-, women-, veteran-, lesbian-, gay-, bisexual- and transgender-owned businesses and other certain qualifying small business enterprises, throughout the bank. In her role, she has led BNY Mellon to become a strong partner and supporter of many supplier diversity organizations.



Lou Switzer established The Switzer Group in 1975 in New York City. Under Switzer's leadership as chairman and CEO, the firm has garnered prestigious U.S. and international assignments from Fortune 500 corporations. Today, the firm ranks as the nation's largest black-owned interior architectural design firm and is among the Top 100 American design companies. The Switzer Group is committed to preserving diversity within the firm and in the company's choice of suppliers and consultants.

ABOUT THE MICHAEL G. FOSTER SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

The University of Washington's Michael G. Foster School of Business was founded in 1917 and is ranked among the nation's Top 10 public business schools. For more information, please visit <http://foster.uw.edu>. For 20 years, the school's Consulting and Business Development Center has been a national leader in engaging students and faculty in growing minority-owned businesses through consulting and business education programs. For more information, please visit <http://foster.uw.edu/consult>.
(continued on page 198)



ABOUT THE INDUCTEES:



Rosa Santana is a staffing industry entrepreneur who began to make her mark as a staffing industry executive over 35 years ago. Currently, she is CEO of Human Capital International LLC based in El Paso, Texas. She has a keen interest in minority business development and has dedicated countless hours mentoring other minority business enterprises and women business enterprises. She cites her selection as the first female Hispanic direct Tier I supplier in Toyota Motor Corp.'s history — through her newest company, Forma Automotive LLC — as one of her proudest accomplishments. Forma Automotive assembles truck beds for the Toyota Tacoma.



Tracey L. Pinson (posthumously recognized) served in various appointments in the public and private sector to advocate for disadvantaged and small businesses. In 1995, the U.S. Secretary of Defense appointed her director, Office of Small Business Programs, Department of the Army. Under her leadership, the Army awarded over \$300 billion in contracts to small businesses. She managed the Army's Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Serving Institutions Outreach Program. Under her leadership, more than \$100 billion was awarded to HBCUs/MIs. In July 2014, she joined The Boeing Co. as director of small/diverse business and strategic alliances for Boeing Defense, Space and Security. She died Dec. 14, 2014.



Nina Vaca is Pinnacle Group's chairman and CEO. Her leadership transformed the Dallas, Texas-based company from a niche information technology services firm to a workforce solutions powerhouse, with a suite of business lines that address the range of human capital challenges companies face today. In addition to her varied business pursuits, she is a committed civic leader and philanthropist. She is a passionate advocate for women and entrepreneurs, especially within the Hispanic and minority communities. In 2014, the White House appointed her as a Presidential Ambassador for Global Entrepreneurship.

ABOUT THE MINORITY BUSINESS HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

The Minority Business Hall of Fame and Museum was founded April 2004 by John F. Robinson, president and CEO, National Minority Business Council Inc.; Don McKneely, chairman and CEO, TexCorp Communications Inc.; and Carol Foster, former editor, Minority Business News USA. Since 2004, MBHF&M has inducted over 60 pioneers and trailblazers of minority business development in the United States.

