



13th Annual Awards Dinner & Dance “Night of Glitz & Glam”

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Head: Grand Canyon Minority Supplier Development Council brings “Glitz and Glam” to its Awards Dinner

Kicker: “*The Grand Canyon Council celebrates minority business owners and corporate & government supporters*”

PHOENIX – The Grand Canyon Minority Supplier Development Council will host its 13th Annual Awards Dinner & Dance on May 19, 2007 at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Phoenix. For the last 2 years Cara Liu, Newscaster, KPHO - Channel 5 served as Mistress of Ceremonies. The Council serves the Latino, African American, Asian and Native American business communities. The council re-structured its Awards Dinner last year to an “Academy Awards” type format, which included the “Red Carpet Walk, a “Joan Rivers” impersonator, and the infamous phrase, “And the winner is...”. In previous years the award winners were announced and publicized prior to the awards dinner. For a third straight year the award winners will only be announced the night of the awards dinner. Minority Business Enterprise Supplier of the Year nominees will be honored in four classes according to their net revenues. Other Corporate award nominees will be recognized as well.

When talk of changing the look of the awards surfaced, Board Chair Robert Esquivel chimed in and stated, “This coveted award has been our theme award and our tradition for the last 10 years. It can’t be changed”. The award, created by artist Damien Charette, illustrates pride in oneself. Mr. Charette creates the award image on bark paper handmade in Oaxaca, Mexico. Damien, who grew up in the northern Cheyenne Reservation in Montana, is of Chippewa & French descent, and is a graduate of the University of Montana. His work has been shown nationally and internationally, including New York and Paris.

Ron Williams, President/CEO of the Council, conveyed 2 years ago that in trying to bring a new and different flavor to the awards dinner, he felt that announcing the winners the night of the dinner would hopefully bring a new atmosphere of excitement and fun. He said, “This is now our tradition”. Williams added that, “Just like last year, you will continue to see diversity represented at its best at this event. There is no other business diversity event of its kind in Arizona that is so diversely represented”. Updates will be shared on their website. More information is available at 602-495-9950 or www.gcmsdc.org.

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