

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

April 24, 2014

Contact : Richard Garcia

(323) 201-1261 * Richard.garcia@qualiagroup.net

Latino Business Leaders Gather at the Fifth Annual Los Angeles Latino Chamber of Commerce Awards Gala

*Latino-Owned Businesses Will Be Recognized
for Their Growth and Contributions to The Local Economy*

LOS ANGELES, CA – The Los Angeles Latino Chamber of Commerce (LALCC) will celebrate their Fifth Annual Business Awards and Matchmaking Event on Tuesday, May 6 at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel in downtown Los Angeles located at 404 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles 90071. The matchmaking portion of the event is scheduled from 7:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. with the luncheon beginning at 12:00 noon.

This year's award categories include Start-up, Small, Medium and Large; public, innovative and fastest-growing Latino businesses. Special recognition will be given to a corporate and family legacy business organization.

“Los Angeles is host to some of the region's best emerging and established Latino operated and owned companies offering world-class services and products to consumers everywhere,” said Theresa Martinez, LALCC's Chief Executive Officer. “We want to take this opportunity to highlight their stories and showcase their examples of success to inspire others looking to start or grow their business ambitions.”

“We represent some of the best business operations in Southern California and our annual gala is one way the LALCC brings together Latino talent from a variety of industries to help celebrate our members and their success,” said Gil Vasquez, LALCC's Board Chair. “We invite all business owners, and those who are on the verge of starting their own business, to join us for a day of celebration, networking and information and discuss ways the chamber can help support their business goals.”

The event is attended by over 500 of Southern California's top Latino entrepreneurs, business owners and professionals annually. The specially designed matchmaking event provides a forum for representatives of regional companies to connect with colleagues and other top talent business individuals to develop potential business leads.

Among the sponsors of this year's awards luncheon are Verizon, Southern California Edison, Entravision, Walmart, Union Bank, Southern California Gas, AON Hewitt and the main sponsor, Bank of America.

“We are enthusiastic to participate and sponsor LALCC's 2014 Awards Gala and look forward to having an event where light is shined on businesses and individuals who have helped build the local economy through workforce development and opportunities,” said Claudia Bodan, Bank of America's Senior Vice President. “Bank of America wishes to congratulate all of this year's nominees on their hard work and the diligence they have displayed in pursuing their career and business goals.”

According to a study released by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency, Latino-owned businesses are growing at more than twice the rate of the national average with respective revenues rising more than 55 percent to nearly \$350 billion in the last five years. In 2008, according to the report, Latino-owned businesses contributed \$547 billion to the national economy.

Tickets for the event are available. For more information on the event, tickets or future sponsorship opportunities please call (213) 347-0008, email tmartinez@lalcc.org or visit www.LALCC.org.

###