



Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber of Commerce

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The Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber of Commerce Celebrates their 15th Annual Economic Awards Dinner and Honors Four Distinguished Individuals

Los Angeles, CA- In the heart of Downtown, on March 20, 2008, the Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber of Commerce (GLAAACC) will be celebrating their 15th Annual Economic Awards Dinner at the beautiful Sheraton Hotel, California Ballroom; 5:30 PM Reception, 7 PM Dinner and Program. This year's dinner theme is "*Building Economic and Political Coalitions*," emphasizing the importance of business and political relationships to boost the economy. The evening's Mistress of Ceremonies will be Ms. Nischelle Turner, Television News Reporter, from the KTTV Fox 11 News Team. Invited Dinner guests include Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.

GLAAACC held the 1st Economic Awards Dinner in 1994, chaired by Sam Iacobellis of Rockwell International with keynote speaker Daniel S. Goldin, administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Since that time the annual dinner has grown in size and stature with such notable keynotes as Hazel O'Leary, U.S. Secretary of Energy; Rodney Slater, U.S. Secretary of Transportation; Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Los Angeles County Supervisor; Alexis Herman, U.S. Secretary of Labor; and former LA Governor Gray Davis.

GLAAACC was established in 1991 by a group of business owners and executives led by Gene Hale, President of G&C Equipment Corp. and Homer Broome, President, Marvid Associates. Their vision was to create an organization that would serve as an advocate for African American-owned business enterprises and promote their growth and expansion into the international arena. In keeping with their mission, GLAAACC has been active in its advocacy and support of African American business enterprise by providing a variety of programs and services to assist in their growth and development. Their premiere program, Business Evolution Program (BEP), is a new GLAAACC members-only program that is designed to assist one business per year reach the next level of economic success. With the assistance of GLAAACC's Corporate Advisory Board and its Board of Directors, the BEP Committee selects a business that will become the recipient of all the GLAAACC business development resources. The selected business will be mentored, guided, encouraged and placed in beneficial networking situations to ensure that the business has an exceptionally high probability of successfully reaching the next level within their business line. The Chamber's immediate goal is to increase African American participation in the multi-billion dollar Los Angeles County business arena.

This year's honorees are *Congresswoman Laura Richardson*, United States Congress, 37th District; *Commissioner Timothy A. Simon*, California Public Utilities Commission; *Judy Chu*, Vice Chair, State Board of Equalization; and *Victor MacFarlane*, Managing Principal, MacFarlane Partners. These individuals are being honored for their intrinsic role in developing Political Coalitions and supporting African American businesses.

For more information on the Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber of Commerce and the 15th Annual Economic Awards visit www.glaaacc.org or contact Tamara Ashford at tamara@glaaacc.org, and for additional ticketing and sponsorship opportunities please contact Personal Services Plus, Inc. Event Management Company at (626) 791-3847 or events@personalservicesplus.com.