



DIALOGUE ON DIVERSITY

Twenty Five Years of Service to America's Diverse Communities

ENTREPRENEURSHIP-IT AND QUARTER CENTURY AWARDS — SEPTEMBER 21, 2015 PRESS ADVISORY

Contact: 703-631-0650

August 12th, 2015 Washington, D.C. — DIALOGUE ON DIVERSITY is completing its twenty fifth year of work on the Washington and national scenes. With origins in 1990 as a group of dedicated women, interested in the international aspects of their concerns for diverse and nurturing societies, the nascent Dialogue reached out in a series of exchange visits to women in the swiftly evolving politics of Eastern Europe and the then porous Soviet space. It went on, over the years following, to unfold a comprehensive vision of domestic concerns – of social practice and public policy, technological advance and economic viability. A Celebration is set for Monday, September 21st. 2015, beginning with the annual Entrepreneurship – Information Technology Conference, 12:30 – 4:30 p.m., and continuing, from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m., with the Dialogue's Quarter Century Awards and a gala reception.

DR. MALCOLM N. JOSEPH, III Heading the list of laureates is Dr. Joseph, Medical Director at CareFirst BlueCross Blue Shield, a leading mid-Atlantic medical insurance group, a figure notable both for his multiple skills and for a ready compassion, who is honored with the **Health Leadership Award**.

FRANK TORRES Microsoft's Director for Consumer Affairs, Mr. Torres, among the country's preeminent experts in the law of privacy and commercial practice, is to be recognized for **Entrepreneurship/Information Technology Leadership**.

DR. DEBORAH C. PEEL, M.D. A leading national proponent of Patient Health Privacy, in the face of the healthcare system's voracious, IT-powered appetite for personal data, Dr. Peel, honored in the **Health Information Technology Award** is distinguished for tireless efforts in the cause.

ANA G. MÉNDEZ UNIVERSITY SYSTEM (SUAGM/AGMUS) For over two score years, steadily growing, the Ana G. Méndez University system has most recently established four branch sites in the U.S. mainland, in addition to the three traditional schools on its home turf in Puerto Rico. Its National Capital branch is honored for its swift growth, and the excellence of its second, 2015, graduating class. It is recognized for **Higher Education Excellence**

CÉSAR MORENO PEREZ Associate Director of Human Rights and Community Affairs at the American Federation of Teachers, Mr. Moreno-Perez, honored with the **Education Leadership Award**, has combined estimable administrative skills with a passionate concern for the formation of intellectually enabled citizens, especially all those young of the country's minority communities.

ANDREW GELFUSO The Director of the International Trade Center at the Ronald Reagan Building in central Washington, Mr. Gelfuso, here to be honored with the **Community Leadership Award**, has generously supported the Dialogue's own Holiday Fair and the work of civic and charitable groups throughout the national capital community.

ENTERPRISE OF THE YEAR D&P Creative Strategies, a young public relations firm sparkling with ideas and energy under the guiding hands of its Co-CEOs Ingrid Duran and Catherine Pino, is recognized for its versatility, fresh concepts, and successes in the D.C. and national markets.

ANA SOL-GUTIERREZ, one among a train of luminaries from Dialogue on Diversity's history and present, will recount her experience twenty five years ago as one of the hardy travelers, the early core group of Dialogue on Diversity, journeying to the Soviet empire in its last days. Ms. Sol-Gutierrez has since gone on to many worthy exploits, having served for long in the Maryland House of Delegates, and now unveiling her candidacy for the U.S. House of Representatives.

The opening sessions of the September 21st program, getting underway at 1:00 p.m., are given over to the 2015 Entrepreneurship/IT Conference, which this year touches all the essential topics – Marketing, Supplier Diversity, and the SBA, Choice of Business Form, the smart employment of IT in the Small-Medium size Firm, and more. Added this year is a long due discussion of **WORKFORCE AND WELLNESS**.

About Dialogue on Diversity: Dialogue on Diversity is a national network of women entrepreneurs and professionals, civil society staff and executives, and others with a lively policy concern, bringing together Latino and other diverse ethnic and cultural communities for interchange of experience and ideas in colloquia and symposia, aiming to achieve empowerment in civil, economic and social dimensions.