



MEDIA ADVISORY
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For Immediate Release

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2015 Chamber's Champions Small Business Awards and Expo Award Winners Announced

Connecting Small Businesses with Partners Who Can Help Them Grow

Washington, DC -- The DC Chamber of Commerce proudly announces the winners selected to receive distinguished honors at the upcoming 2015 Chamber's Champions Small Business Awards & Expo. Representing the best and brightest in the city's small business community, awardees were chosen for five categories: Small Businessperson of the Year, Young Entrepreneur of the Year, Non-Profit Organization of the Year, Small Business Champion of the Year, and Women in Business Champion of the Year. Together, they make the District of Columbia one of the best cities in the world in which to live and do business.

"Congratulations to this year's Small Business Champions," said Harry Wingo, President and CEO of the DC Chamber of Commerce. "Their hard work is a testament to the contributions small businesses make to the Washington, DC economy and to our nation's economy every day." "In addition to the extraordinary contributions that these small businesses make to the economy, these businessmen and women are true visionaries and leaders who inspire success now and for future generations. It's now time to celebrate their accomplishments." Below are the winners for each category.

Women in Business Champion of the Year - Connie Gorum

Connie Gorum is the Founder & CEO of C. L. Russell Group, LLC a company that helps organizations of all sizes to develop customized and impactful training programs to increase employee productivity and performance. Along with her consulting business, Ms. Gorum is very passionate about giving back to the community. The L.A. Russell Group delivers free monthly professional workforce workshops to disadvantaged adults seeking employment and life skills development. Also, in 2010, she founded the Fashionista Entrepreneur Academy, a non-profit organization that helps youth with a strong interest in fashion to develop entrepreneurship skills at an early age. This program reached over 700 students in DC and Prince George's County through numerous workshops and speaking forums.

The Chamber's Champions Small Business Awards winners will be spotlighted during the Chamber's Champions Small Business Awards and Expo on Friday, June 5, 2015 from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. The event will take place at the Washington Convention Center.

For more information on the Chamber's Champions Small Business Awards and Expo, visit
www.dcchamber.org.

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