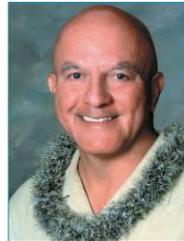




Meeting Challenges... Achieving Success

Presenting

Hawaii's 2009 Small Business Award Winners



Small Business Person of the Year State of Hawaii

Vaughn Vasconcellos Akimeka, LLC

SBA Young Entrepreneur State of Hawaii & Region IX Michael Fairall Mokulua Woodworking, Ltd.

Small Business Journalist State of Hawaii & Region IX Naomi Hazelton-Giambrone Pacific Edge Magazine

Entrepreneurial Success State of Hawaii Timothy Moore, Michael Moore & Robert Aguiar Old Lahaina Luau, Aloha Mixed Plate

Small Business Exporter State of Hawaii Richard Xie Hawaiian Sealife, Inc.

SBA Family-Owned Business State of Hawaii Jayne & Jay Kim & June Arakawa Eki Cyclery

Financial Services Champion State of Hawaii Jean Jeremiah SCORE of Hawaii, Inc.

Home-Based Business Champion State of Hawaii Agnes Reyes Case Management Professionals, Inc.

Minority Small Business Champion State of Hawaii Barbara Haliniak The Business Depot, Molokai Chamber of Commerce

Women in Business Champion State of Hawaii Melissa Pavlicek Hawaii Public Policy Advocates

Veteran Small Business Champion State of Hawaii Judy Aranaydo Pearl Harbor Fleet & Family Support Center

Small Business Person City & County of Honolulu Shelley Wilson Wilson Homecare

Small Business Person County of Maui Max Tsai TC Kokua, LLC

Small Business Person County of Kauai Valerie Parker The Parker Group, Inc.

Small Business Person County of Hawaii Dr. John Stover Hilo Oral & Facial Surgery, Inc.

Entrepreneurial Success City & County of Honolulu John Yamamoto PEMCO, Ltd.

SBA Young Entrepreneur City & County of Honolulu Asa Ikeda Cam Security, Inc.

SBA Young Entrepreneur County of Maui Raiatea Helm Raiatea Helm Records, LLC

SBA Family-Owned Business City & County of Honolulu Shiro Matuso Shiro's Saimin Haven

SBA Family-Owned Business County of Maui Kiyoko Komoda, Betty & Calvin Shibuya, Ikuo Komoda, Dan Komoda & Michele Shibuya T. Komoda Store & Bakery, Inc.

SBA Family-Owned Business County of Kauai Frank & Pearl Nonaka, Scot & Meryn Nonaka Kauai Producers, Ltd.

SBA Family-Owned Business County of Hawaii Dwight Manago Manago Hotel, Inc.

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Financial Services Champion City & County of Honolulu Mike Hulser & Jessica Hulser The Biz MD

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Financial Services Champion County of Hawaii Darl Gleed Darl C. Gleed, Attorney at Law

Women in Business Champion City & County of Honolulu Tanna Dang The Wedding Café

Women in Business Champion County of Maui Carol Ball Carol Ball & Associates, Realtors

Women in Business Champion County of Kauai Susan Tai Kauai Economic Development Board, Inc.

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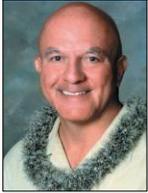
Minority Small Business Champion City & County of Honolulu Marie Villa Latin Business Hawaii, Hawaii Hispanic News

Women in Business Champion County of Hawaii Melanie Biddle Hale Ho'onanea

2009 Small Business Person of the Year

State of Hawaii

Vaughn Vasconcellos Akimeka, LLC



A Native Hawaiian and a graduate of West Point, Vaughn Vasconcellos established Akimeka LLC in 1997 to provide information technology solutions, products and services to the Department of Defense and other government agencies. A successful graduate of SBA's 8(a) Business Development and Government Contracting program, Akimeka LLC delivers high impact solutions in the areas of military medicine, secure access for classified information, and enhanced emergency services. Under his leadership, the company has grown, creating over 160 jobs for talented, highly-educated professionals in our state and generating millions in annual revenues.

Vasconcellos currently serves as a director for Oahu Workforce Investment Board, Sandwich Island Communications, and the Native Hawaiian Organization Association. *Nominated by Denise Haruki, Central Pacific Bank*

City and County of Honolulu

Shelley Wilson Wilson Homecare



Shelley Wilson is the founder, President and CEO of Wilson Homecare, a licensed home healthcare agency formed in 1996 to provide professional, personalized home care for individuals in their home, in elder care homes and through State-sponsored programs. Since that time, the company has evolved into one of the most progressive and fast-growing agencies of its kind in Hawaii, with over 200 full time and part time employees and generating over \$4 million in annual revenues. Wilson's leadership and commitment to the highest quality care has motivated her team to top performance and continued personal and professional growth. *Nominated by Colleen*

Weir, Wilson Homecare

County of Maui

Max Tsai TC Kokua, LLC



Opened in 2001, TC Kokua, LLC, has become an innovative leader in outsourced customer contact center solutions to business through Hawaii and the U.S. mainland. As the founder, president and owner, Max Tsai used state-of -the-art technology and a high level of customer service to create more value and to differentiate TC Kokua from off-shore call centers. Sales continue to grow annually, establishing ten new jobs in Maui County since the inception of the company. Tsai considers his employees the backbone of the company and offers top tier benefits. This successful entrepreneur also shares his energy and skill with Maui United Way, American Heart Association,

Iao Theater, Young Business Round Table and the Chamber of Commerce. *Nominated by Brian Thomas, Brian Thomas Wealth Management & SCORE of Hawaii, Inc.*

2009 Small Business Person of the Year (continued)

County of Kauai

Valerie Parker
The Parker Group, Inc.



Valerie Parker is the President and CEO of The Parker Group, Inc., a project management and systems engineering firm that provides an array of technical services to the federal Department of Defense contractors to further test and evaluate new technologies as they mature through the acquisition lifecycle. She has grown her company dramatically from a one-woman start-up into a 14-employee company garnering several valuable government contracts for the Hawaii firm. Through foresight, good planning and hard work, she has adapted to changes in governmental requirements and funding and has modified aspects of her business operation and services to meet the demand of constantly-changing technology and customer needs. Parker has reworked her business plan to redefine her business and expand the scope and base of her operations to take advantage of changing opportunities, including subcontracts with research corporations and laboratories such as UARC and Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Labs. *Nominated by Larry Dressler, Bank of Hawaii*

County of Hawaii

Dr. John Stover
Hilo Oral and Facial Surgery, Inc.



With facilities located in Kona, Waimea and Hilo, Dr. John Stover has built a network of “state-of-the-art” facial, cosmetic and oral surgery clinics that serve as a one-stop shop for medical treatment, cosmetic procedures and consultations. After joining the small two-surgeon practice in Hilo in 2001, Stover purchased the business in 2003 with an SBA guaranteed loan and expanded his offices to Waimea, opening North Hawaii Oral & Facial Surgery in 2003. His Kona clinic opened in 2006, rounding out the three major markets on the Big Island and boosting his staff to 12 full time and 23 part time jobs by 2008. With the leadership, medical expertise and innovative practices applied by Dr. Stover and his key staff, the three clinics, along with the North Hawaii Medical Spa started in 2006, have developed into a profitable, multimillion dollar venture that serves patients island-wide with quality care and professionalism. *Nominated by Gregory Ayau, Bank of Hawaii*

2009 Entrepreneurial Success of the Year

State of Hawaii

Timothy Moore, Michael Moore & Robert Aguiar
Hoaloha Na Eha, Ltd., dba
Old Lahaina Luau, Aloha Mixed Plate



Michael Moore, Tim Moore and Robert Aguiar are the talented owners and leadership team that has developed Old Lahaina Luau, one of the companies operated under Hoaloha Na Eha, Ltd., into Hawaii's premier traditional luau. With real entrepreneurial spirit, the trio built their organization to create an authentic experience, imbued with Hawaiian culture and values. Their growth and diversification has included the 1998 development of the current oceanfront facility that can accommodate 500 guests each night of the week and the adjacent local-style restaurant, Aloha Mixed Plate. SBA's 504 loan program funded this important project. Providing over 250 jobs, the company manages all aspects of its business, from foodservice, entertainment, sales and marketing to administration, resulting in millions in annual revenues. *Nominated by Brian Kakihara, First Hawaiian Bank*

City and County of Honolulu

John Yamamoto
PEMCO, Ltd.



Since starting his company 25 years ago, John Yamamoto has adjusted his business model many times to accommodate the ever-changing face of real estate and facilities management. He regularly analyzes economic and business trends to identify new opportunities. With the recent award of a contract from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, PEMCO is on track for a highly successful year. The mortgage crisis has increased demand on the company's key services and expanding the payroll to include 85 employees in offices in Hawaii, California, Georgia and Guam. Faced with adversity many times as a small business owner, Yamamoto has developed new skills, and with perseverance and hard work, survived and thrived. *Nominated by Thomas Oh, Central Pacific Bank*

2009 SBA Young Entrepreneur of the Year

State of Hawaii and Region IX

Michael Fairall
Mokulua Woodworking, Ltd.



Michael Fairall is a talented carpenter and savvy entrepreneur who has set his sights set on changing perceptions in the construction industry, one project at a time. A truly client-driven company with an emphasis on care for the environment, he has expanded Mokulua Woodworking, Ltd. by aligning the company with likeminded clients and hiring talented individuals who share the same ideals. Fairall started a new venture, Fairall and Company, as a catalyst for other projects, including importing sustainable and renewable resources from around the globe and as a facilitator to help contractors expand their business through environmental opportunities and government contracts.

Nominated by Alyson Fink, Castle High School

City and County of Honolulu

Asa Ikeda
Cam Security, Inc.



Asa Ikeda had a vision and plan for Cam Security, Inc., that would differentiate itself from the well-known security companies that dominate the Oahu market by focusing on the surveillance niche. He takes pride in his work and recognizes the importance of protecting the company's reputation as trustworthy, customer-oriented and innovative. Ikeda shows his entrepreneurial skills as he is continually planning the next step for the growth of his company. Cam Security became a Clearwire representative to offer new options for wireless surveillance and web-based options. Training the staff of ten in the latest technologies, customer service and safety has paid big

dividends in customer satisfaction and performance. *Nominated by Darren Ota, Bank of Hawaii*

County of Maui

Raiatea Helm
Raiatea Helm Records, LLC



A musician, entertainer, recording artist, exporter, publisher and two-time Grammy-nominated performer, Raiatea Helm displays natural business savvy as well as extraordinary musical talent. Her company, Raiatea Helm Records LLC generates revenue from the sale of her CDs, merchandise, live performances and the licensing of her music for film and distribution. She has been involved in special projects with the Matt Catingub Orchestra and with Putamayo Records. In 2008, Helm partnered with Hawaiian Host Chocolates for a highly successful promotion that packaged her original songs with their signature chocolates for Hawaii's tourist market, and creating a unique new marketing tactic for her growing company.

Nominated by Karey Oura, First Hawaiian Bank

2009 SBA Family-Owned Small Business of the Year

State of Hawaii

Jayne & Jay Kim, June Arakawa Eki Cyclery



Eki Cyclery has been family-owned and operated for over 97 years. Three years after emigrating from Japan, Toichi Eki saved enough money to start his own small business, opening a bicycle shop on King Street in 1911. In the mid 60s, another generation took the helm and guided the store's growth, focusing on quality products and services to increase annual revenues. The main store moved in 1971 to the 15,000 sq.ft. facility on Dillingham Blvd. to include a spacious showroom and warehouse for inventory. Since 1995, Jayne Kim, the youngest daughter of June and Shuichi Arakawa, has operated the store with her husband, Jay. One of the oldest Schwinn dealers in the United States, Eki Cyclery also carries BMX, Diamond Back, Dahon, Sun, F&R Lowriders and the full Raleigh line. The company supports the Hawaii Bicycling League, Bike-Ed, the K-Vibe program in Kalihi valley and their own "Bike Delight" program to raise funds. *Nominated by Darin Shigeta, Bank of Hawaii*

City and County of Honolulu

Shiro Matsuo Shiro & Associates, Inc., dba Shiro's Saimin Haven & Family Restaurant



Shiro Matsuo is an astute businessman, a philosopher, a poet, and an ambassador of goodwill and aloha. When he took over a nearly-bankrupt restaurant in the Aiea Bowling Alley more than forty years ago, he had a meager \$85 in savings to see him through the turnaround of the small business. Matsuo restructured the business to balance the budget, retrained remaining staff using his own recipes, and a local legend was born. Once profitable, he sold the first location, moved to Waimalu and added two more restaurants and a noodle factory. Today, Shiro & Associates, managed by Matsuo's daughter Linda and her husband, generates millions in revenue and provides jobs for 77 employees. His contributions to the community – support for public schools, Weed and Seed, and other charities – are hard to measure in the inspiration and motivation he provides. *Nominated by Keith Masuda, Central Pacific Bank*

County of Maui

Kiyoko Komoda, Betty & Calvin Shibuya, Ikuo Komoda, Dan Komoda, & Michele Shibuya T. Komoda Store and Bakery, Inc.



Now a Makawao landmark, T. Komoda Store and Bakery was established in 1916 by Takezo and Shigeri Komoda as a small restaurant selling sandwiches and saimin. Over the course of almost a century, the business has evolved with the times, eventually creating a niche as a bakery known for its famous cream puffs and stick donuts. The eldest Komoda son, Takeo and his wife Kiyoko, assumed management of the family business and were soon joined by brothers Ikuo and Dan, who still work as the company's master bakers. Son-in-law Calvin Shibuya took over the day-to-day operations in the mid-1990s. Currently, granddaughter Michele Shibuya helps carry on the family tradition. *Nominated by Lolita Feliciano & Alvin Santander, Bank of Hawaii*

2009 SBA Family-Owned Small Business of the Year (continued)

County of Kauai

Frank & Pearl Nonaka, Scot & Merlyn Nonaka Kauai Producers, Ltd.



Formed in 1954, Kauai Producers, Ltd. was initially operated as a cooperative that purchased produce from its shareholders for sale to various businesses on Kauai. Initially employed as the manager, Frank Nonaka steadily grew the produce operation to generate a strong \$4 million in annual sales and eventually became the major shareholder. When son Scot Nonaka joined the team in the 1980's, the operations expanded to include the sale of frozen foods and household products to boost revenues to over \$7 million. With their leadership, skill and management, the company has demonstrated long-term success and economic survival through two hurricanes, three wars, the impact of 9/11 and the arrival of the Big Box retailers. In responding to each adversity, the Nonakas have made adjustments to operations to maintain their market share and profitability. With a keen sense of responsibility to their employee ohana, creative solutions were also used to avoid layoffs for their 20 loyal personnel. *Nominated by Clyde Nakaya, Central Pacific Bank*

County of Hawaii

Dwight Manago Manago Hotel, Inc.



A familiar landmark nestled in the hills with a view of Kealakekua Bay, the Manago Hotel was originally started as a small coffee shop in 1917 by Kinzo and Osame Manago with \$100 borrowed from a field supervisor. Now a 64-room hotel with a full-sized restaurant in Captain Cook outside Kona, the operation is managed by the grandson of the founders, Dwight Manago, who demonstrates the same dedication to old-style hospitality that guided his father, Harold, as president of the company before him. While each successive generation has grown up with roles in the family business, from picking coffee and cutting wood, to doing laundry and cleaning, the hotel now provides 20 jobs in West Hawaii. With a reputation for great food, clean rooms and real value, this 92-year-old business continues to attract tourists from around the globe and garners rave reviews from guests. *Nominated by Art Taniguchi & Debbie Flanary, Bank of Hawaii*

2009 Small Business Exporter of the Year

State of Hawaii

Richard Xie
Hawaiian Sealife, Inc.



Richard Xie, president of Hawaiian Sealife, Inc., is a pioneer in the aquaculture industry who works tirelessly to halt the diminishing marine resources and to develop new technologies for conservation. The company collects, markets and trades ornamental marine species and products around the globe, as well as designs and maintains the large marine environments and shows for aquariums, zoos and other public facilities. Originally from China, Xie has invested in a research farm in that country and works with international scientists on sustainable aquaculture projects. As an exporter, Xie has introduced local business owners to the China and Taiwan markets and served as a liaison to bridge cultural differences. Currently, he is involved with projects to develop post-larvae fish farming in Taiwan, China, France and Kiribati. *Nominated by Karl Sadanaga, Bank of Hawaii*

County of Kauai

Dana Roberts
Malie, Inc.



Incorporated in Hawaii in January 2004, Malie, Inc. produces nature's purest luxury beauty products using Hawaiian hydrosols, plant essences based on a new distillation chemistry made on Kauai. The company currently sells the 75-product line to over 250 lifestyle boutiques and spas on the mainland, Australia, Canada, Germany and the United Kingdom. Through their distribution network, website and local retail shop, sales grew quickly toward the million-dollar mark by 2007. The company hires local strategic partners with industry-related experience in global beauty brands and established a small distribution center in California to reduce shipping costs. Malie partners with local companies who handcraft quality products that are incorporated into their product mix, often assisting start-ups with packaging, financing, sales and distribution, creating 20 new jobs in the process. *Nominated by Thomas Canute, First Hawaiian Bank*

2009 Small Business Journalist of the Year

State of Hawaii and Region IX

Naomi Hazelton-Giambrone
Pacific Edge Magazine



Creative, fresh and cutting edge, *Pacific Edge Magazine* is the invention of Naomi Hazelton-Giambrone, designed to raise awareness around and of Hawaii's small business owners. With a true appreciation of the importance of networking and relationships, Hazelton-Giambrone uses her publication as a powerful tool to connect small business owners with over 40,000 readers. Working with organizations like the Chamber of Commerce, Hawaii Women's Business Center and the Social Wahines, through *Pacific Edge*, Hazelton-Giambrone has highlighted the contributions of small businesses to the community while demonstrating that "doing well and doing good" is a winning formula for success. She was recognized by Small Business Hawaii with the Small Business Booster Award in May 2008. *Nominated by Stacey Suzui, Central Pacific Bank*

City and County of Honolulu

Kristen Consillio
Small Business Reporter



Business reporter Kristen Consillio sharpened her journalism skills as a business reporter for both *Pacific Business News* and the *Honolulu Star Bulletin* after her graduation from the University of Hawaii. She built a solid reputation for her ability to convey the experiences of small business owners as well as the underlying facts of more complex issues such as health care costs, legislative actions and their impacts on the community. She has been recognized for her contributions with awards from the Society of Professional Journalism as well as the Hawaii Medical Association for her reports in the print media. Consillio shares her professional expertise and knowledge by speaking about her career, mentoring young journalists, and fighting for journalism's core values. *Nominated by Lori Honda & Randy Au, Bank of Hawaii*

County of Maui

Sarah Ruppenthal
Maui Writers Block



As a journalist and small business owner, Sarah Ruppenthal devotes much of her time to finding the best words to describe the enthusiasm, determination and entrepreneurial spirit of the small business community. She is editorial assistant and contributor for business news for the Maui Weekly, a journalism instructor at Maui Community College and editor of the Maui Chamber publication, "Connections." Ruppenthal has produced articles and feature stories addressing a wide range of issues that impact the local business community, including the economic crisis, political platforms, declining tourism, affordable housing, regulation and sustainability. Through her writing for websites, marketing materials, and press releases, she helps her small business clients grow their businesses. Ruppenthal develops her story concepts with a goal to enlighten the reader with the accomplishments of Maui's hardworking businesses and actively seeks out stories that inform, inspire and encourage others to pursue their dreams. *Nominated by Alvin Santander, Bank of Hawaii*

2009 Small Business Journalist of the Year (continued)

County of Kauai

Randall Francisco Kauai Chamber of Commerce



As the president of the organization whose mission is to promote, develop and improve commerce, quality growth and economic stability in the County of Kauai, Randall Francisco is truly the voice of small business. With the belief that increased knowledge and awareness is vital to business, Francisco's energetic approach uses print, radio and television to disseminate his message to the community. He has a weekly radio program, a monthly column in the Garden Island News and a "Chamber Juice" column in the Kauai Business Report. He also writes and publishes the monthly newsletter for the Chamber's 450 members. Further, the Chamber also has a robust website that provides links to business resources, economic reports, data and a calendar of events. An outstanding advocate, Francisco has strengthened and leveraged existing media to improve the understanding of the needs of small businesses by elected officials, government entities and by the general public. *Nominated by Sonia Topenio, Bank of Hawaii*

2009 Financial Services Champion of the Year

State of Hawaii

Jean Jeremiah
SCORE of Hawaii, Inc.



As the administrator for SCORE of Hawaii, Jean Jeremiah goes beyond just organizing the office. Jeremiah is generally the first contact for the small business owner seeking advice and assistance from the volunteer consultants of the local chapter. She matches clients to appropriate counselors who can provide guidance with business planning, financing proposals and management, accounting and marketing. She has assisted over 75 small business clients in successfully obtaining business loans through SBA's Community Express program, including many veterans and minority entrepreneurs, in the last two fiscal years. Through her efforts, SCORE has been named SBA's top technical assistance partner for 2007 and 2008. Jeremiah is very client-focused, working extra hours to assure that the prospective borrower's application is properly prepared and executed, resulting in fully-satisfied and successful customers. *Nominated by Naomi Masuno, First Hawaiian Bank & Keith Ogata, SCORE of Hawaii, Inc.*

City and County of Honolulu

Mike Hulser & Jessica Hulser
The Biz MD



The Biz MD, operated by Mike Hulser and his daughter, Jessica, is a management and consulting firm focused on driving profitability and cash flow – the life blood of a company – for their small business clients. The firm helps small businesses develop effective business plans, attract capital and debt as needed, and effectively manage the business to achieve the desired financial results. Both Mike and Jessica share their skills and expertise as volunteer counselors and trainers for small businesses with the Hawaii Women's Business Center, Hawaii SBDC Network, the Chamber of Commerce and other groups. *Nominated by Greg Sokolowski, Central Pacific Bank*

County of Maui

Suzie Thieman
MEO Business Development Corp.



Susie Thieman, the CEO of the Maui Economic Opportunity Business Development Corporation, has a passionate, personal commitment to help small business owners operate a successful enterprise. With her staff, she offers consultations and training to enable aspiring entrepreneurs to effectively manage and market their products and find the capital they need to do so. The popular Core Four Business Planning course guides business owners in the development of a realistic plan for their business. Thieman is a technical assistance provider for SBA's Community Express Loans and is a voting member of Lokahi Pacific Rural Development, a certified development company for SBA's 504 financing program. MEO Business Development Corporation has helped to create more than 750 new businesses that have created or retained 1,050 jobs. *Nominated by Kevin Yoshida & Pat Matsumoto, Central Pacific Bank*

2009 Financial Services Champion of the Year (continued)

County of Hawaii

Darl Gleed

Darl C. Gleed, Attorney at Law



With a solo practice based in Kailua-Kona for more than 17 years, Darl Gleed specializes in business planning and estate planning and works closely with many small business owners to organize their business and personal financial matters. Gleed has assisted many small business owners in establishing the appropriate legal entities for their companies and identifying resources for start-up capital through SBA loans, angel investors and other means. He also offers help with many non-legal aspects of business, including preparation of business plans and the development of creative financing arrangements for buyers and sellers. Gleed frequently speaks on small business topics like capital formation and venture funding for community, business and professional events, including workshops for the Hawaii SBDC Network. *Nominated by Donn Mende & Amy Bircher, American Savings Bank*

2009 Women in Business Champion of the Year

State of Hawaii

Melissa Pavlicek
Hawaii Public Policy Advocates



As the president and owner of Hawaii Public Policy Advocates, Melissa Pavlicek understands the small businesses she represents in her work as a lobbyist and advocate for the interest of small businesses and non-profit organizations. She has championed the advancement of women, including women's rights, health care, gender equity, children and family issues and many others. She has provided pro-bono assistance to many women struggling with the many challenges of establishing their own small businesses. She has been instrumental in creating new opportunities for women business owners through entrepreneurship panels, skills-building seminars for women lawyers, DBEDT's Regulatory Review Board and many other events. She has been active with the Organization of Women Leaders, the International Women's Leadership Conference, and the Girl Scout Council of Hawaii's "Teaming for Tomorrow" Program. *Nominated by Barbra Pleadwell, Hastings & Pleadwell, A Communications Company*

City and County of Honolulu

Tanna Dang
Bamboo River, LLC, dba
The Wedding Café



Tanna Dang brings a new enthusiasm and energy to the women's business community in Hawaii with her approach to doing business. An entrepreneur with several companies under her corporate umbrella, Dang operates a wedding resource center that connects hundreds of brides with talented professionals offering products and services in the million-dollar Hawaii wedding industry. She hosts workshops, presents fashion shows and sales, and publishes a directory to track the latest trends and values to help brides customize their special day. Her programs have increased opportunities for approximately 200 small businesses, 60% of which are woman owned. Dang has further demonstrated her commitment to improving conditions for women entrepreneurs through her work as a member of the board of the Oahu Wedding Association and the National Association of Catering Executives. *Nominated by Nicole Matsuo, Bank of Hawaii*

County of Maui

Carol Ball
Carol Ball & Associates, Realtors



As the proprietor of the first woman owned real estate firm on Maui, Carol Ball has led the way in a field initially dominated by men. Ball has championed the cause of women's business ownership, education, opportunity and gender equity in her work as a business owner, active board member and involved community leader. Starting her company at mid-life after raising her family, Carol Ball & Associates has ranked among the top 25 real estate firms in Hawaii and earned recognition by Pacific Business News as one of the top women owned businesses. She loves teaching and mentoring, leading her to open a second company, the Carol Ball School of Real Estate, to help other women balance their lives. *Nominated by Craig Bode, American Savings Bank*

2009 Women in Business Champion of the Year (continued)

County of Kauai

Susan Tai

Kauai Economic Development Board, Inc.



As the current director for the Kauai Economic Development Plan for the Kauai Economic Development Board and throughout her professional career, Susan Tai has been an uncommon and inspiring champion for Women in Business. Tai believes that today's women in business must possess a balance of skills and traits that enable them to distinguish themselves as leaders in the community, contributors to the economy, and the architects of a more equitable business landscape. She has stimulated public policy and system changes to support women, families and small businesses through her work with the Hawaii Small Business Development Center Network, Kauai Chamber of Commerce, Kauai Workforce Investment Board, Kauai Planning and Action Alliance, as well as other organizations. She has been a unifying force on the board of the Women in Business Roundtable and collaborated with Kauai Community College and the Maui Economic Development Board on the Women in Technology Project: MentorNet to pair female undergraduates with career women in the science and math fields. *Nominated by Jennifer Sandrowski, Bank of Hawaii*

County of Hawaii

Constance Cate

Hawaii Small Business Development Center Network



Consulting with small business clients across Hawaii County, Constance Cate provides tools and resources to small business owners to start and expand their ventures successfully. With over 55% of her client base made up of women business owners and entrepreneurs, Cate diligently supports the efforts of her female clientele as an effective champion for their independence and success. In addition to the business training and guidance offered, she is a skilled technical assistance provider for SBA's Community Express Loan program and has been instrumental in securing funding for more than a dozen women-owned businesses. Drawing on her experience as a CPA, she is knowledgeable in financial and cash management, taxes and the importance of strong relationships with financial institutions and accounting professionals. She maintains strong relationships with government agencies and business organizations to readily identify resources and opportunities that may benefit and enhance the economic climate for women in business. *Nominated by Cheryl Octavio, Bank of Hawaii*

2009 Veteran Small Business Champion of the Year

State of Hawaii

Judy Aranaydo Pearl Harbor Fleet & Family Support Center



Judy Aranayado, a transition specialist with the Fleet and Family Support Center for the U.S. Navy, makes it her personal goal to help veterans make an effective and satisfying transition from military service to civilian life. Aranaydo has planned and hosted many workshops since 1994, including “Starting your Own Business” with the State’s Business Action Center and SBA, “Patriot Express Days” with SBA and lenders, and several entrepreneurship seminars. She has developed a successful marketing network that includes distribution of promotional material and messages to all shore commands, ships and submarines, Navy television and websites. Her efforts have linked dozens of retiring military personnel with financing and other tools for successful new ventures.
Nominated by Bryan Yamashita, Bank of Hawaii

2009 Minority Small Business Champion of the Year

State of Hawaii

Barbara Haliniak
The Business Depot, Inc.
Molokai Chamber of Commerce



A true advocate for the people of Molokai, Barbara Haliniak has volunteered tremendous amounts of her time to promote the economic livelihood of Molokai. When Haliniak started the Molokai Chamber of Commerce in 2001, the chamber had about 25 members. Today, even with an economy in crisis, the chamber has over 100 members who have benefited from her leadership and state-wide connections. As a small business owner, she has a keen understanding of the needs and challenges that other owners deal with daily and is able to effectively communicate those concerns to elected officials and leaders. *Nominated by Lauren Tanouye, Bank of Hawaii*

City and County of Honolulu

Marie Villa
Latin Business Hawaii
Hawaii Hispanic News



As a volunteer founder and president of Latin Business Hawaii, Marie Villa helped create a non-profit to help Hawaii's Hispanic business people succeed. While other social and cultural outlets were in place, this new organization is an effective business organization providing networking, increased business opportunities and greater access to resources for the more than 105,000 Latinos in Hawaii. Through her energy and vision, many members have initiated new businesses, with companies in Latin American, Mexico and the Caribbean. With the *Hawaii Hispanic News*, Villa reports not only news and information, but features Hispanics who are making a positive impact on their communities and our state. *Nominated by Naomi Masuno, First Hawaiian Bank*

2009 Home-Based Business Champion of the Year

State of Hawaii

Agnes Reyes Case Management Professionals, Inc.



Agnes Reyes, president of Case Management Professionals, Inc., provides services to support the medical, social, financial and psychological needs of elderly and disabled individuals who reside in residential care homes instead of nursing institutions. For over ten years, Reyes has supported the growth of new companies in this burgeoning field by offering training and mentoring to uphold high standards of care. She was a founding member of the Case Management Council, an association to guide home-based businesses in compliance and quality services for the industry. A former care home operator who is aware of the challenges and sacrifices that come with 24/7 care, Reyes continues to advocate for foster and care home businesses. *Nominated by Glorietta Blossey, American Savings Bank*

County of Hawaii

Melanie Biddle Hale Ho'onanea



Melanie Biddle started her tranquil bed and breakfast four years ago with the dream of offering a place to restore body, mind and soul. With three units at her residence, Biddle manages the booking, baking, and cleaning on site for Hale Ho'onanea and she is very involved in the local industry, as well as being an active member in her community. As president of the Hawaii Island Bed & Breakfast Association, she worked to establish an island-wide marketing plan and addressed issues and concerns regarding the permitting of guest accommodations for home-based businesses. A recognized community leader, Biddle is a graduate of Ulumau, the Hawaii Leadership Series presented by the Kona Kohala Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Rotary Club of North Hawaii and a volunteer firefighter. *Nominated by Alia Cabrera-Zuke, Bank of Hawaii*