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Tuesday, April 21, 2009, 1:21pm CDT

SBA honors San Antonio small business week winners

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The San Antonio district office of the Small Business Administration has announced its list of 2009 small business award winners.

Eleven individuals and organizations will be honored May 12 during the SBA's special awards event. The awards presentation will be held that day from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) Downtown Campus.

Winners in the small business categories are selected by a panel of judges based on a nominee's record of business stability, growth in employment, increase in sales, financial performance, business innovation, response to adversity and contributions to the community.

Delicious Tamales President and CEO Valerie Gonzalez has been named Small Business Person of the Year.

Realign LLC founder and CEO Shana M. Prichard has been named Home-Based Business Champion of the Year.

Lacy Hampton, the Small, Women & Minority Business Enterprise Administrator for Alamo Colleges, is the Minority Small Business Champion of the Year.

Kenan Pankau, business loan officer for **Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union**, is the Financial Services Champion of the Year.

Anita Uribe Martin, assistant director of the City of San Antonio's Economic Development Department, is the Women in Business Champion of the Year.

David Hendricks, business columnist for the **San Antonio Express-News**, is the Small Business Journalist of the Year.

Richard Jozwiakowski and Rupert Gresham, are SCORE Counselors of the Year for Austin and San Antonio, respectively.

Free Trade Alliance San Antonio has won the San Antonio District Director's Alliance Award.

The UTSA Institute for Economic Development, International Trade Center for the South-West Texas Border SBDC Network Office has received the SBDC Service Excellence and Innovation Center Award of the Year.

And finally, Mike Reyes, business adviser with the UTSA Small Business Development Center, is the winner of the Small Business Development Center State Star Counselor of the Year award.

To RSVP for the free event, contact Frances Riojas at 210-458-2425 or frances.riojas@utsa.edu.

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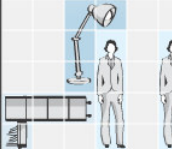
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