



2003 Best in Business Award

Hispanic Publishing
Group



Selection

The presentation of HISPANIC Trends Magazine's first annual Best in Business Award is the culmination of months of analysis of numerous nominations submitted by Hispanic business leaders earlier this year, which resulted in the selection of 11 finalists. All finalists met strict criteria that included posting a minimum of \$1 million in revenues in 2002, being at least 51 percent Hispanic owned, showing a strong pattern of growth and documenting a history of community service. Strict confidentiality was observed regarding all data submitted.

A panel of judges from diverse business and economic fields determined the winner through a numerical ranking system. Because all finalists met all the criteria, decisive factors in rating each candidate focused on how much and in what way these companies benefited their communities: for example, the nature and extent of their community involvement, the number of years they have been in business, and the number of employees and families that rely on the company for their livelihood, or educational or other opportunities.

HISPANIC Trends Magazine congratulates Lou Sobh, president and CEO of Lou Sobh Automotive in Duluth, Georgia, on his selection as the winner of the 2003 Best in Business Award, to be presented November 13 in Miami, Florida.

Judges

The panel of judges who selected the Best in Business Award included: Marco Arredondo, president, Marco A. Arredondo, Inc., Portland, Texas; Tina Cordova, president, Queston Construction, Inc., Albuquerque, New Mexico; Carlos Manzano, associate publisher, Hispanic Publishing Group; George Muñoz, president, Muñoz Group Investment Banking, Arlington, Virginia; Deborah Rosado Shaw, CEO, Umbrellas Plus and Dream Big Enterprises, LLC, Chester, New Jersey; Sam Verdeja, publisher and CEO, Hispanic Publishing Group; and Antonio Villamil, president, The Washington Economic Group, Inc., Coral Gables, Florida.

Sponsor

HISPANIC Trends Magazine's 2003 Best in Business Award is sponsored by Nextel Communications.

Finalists

Congratulations are in order to the following companies and their leaders, who exemplify the best in Hispanic business leadership:

1-Day Paint & Body Centers

CEO: Javier Ricardo Uribe
Automotive body shops. Torrance, CA

CHOICE! Energy

CEO: Enrique Javier Loya
Energy brokerage. Houston, TX

El Dorado Furniture

CEO: Manuel Capo
Retail furniture. Miami, FL

El Taller Colaborativo, PC

CEO: Alex Garcia
Construction management. Newark, NJ

Gauch, Ltd. dba McDonald's

CEO: Julian Claudio Nabozny
Fast food franchise. Phoenix, AZ

Guzman & Co.

CEO: Leopoldo E. Guzman
Investment banking and brokerage. Coral Gables, FL

Potomac Management Group

CEO: Dennis J. Garcia
Information technology. Alexandria, VA

Publicis, Sanchez & Levitan

CEO: Aida Levitan, Ph.D.
Marketing communications. Miami, FL

Ramirez Masonry Incorporated

CEO: Art Ramirez
Masonry construction. Azusa, CA

Transfinance Corporation

CEO: Anthony Morales
Business and financial consulting. Houston, TX