



## PRESS RELEASE

Public Relations Contact:  
Ann Almond  
(404) 207-3817

# 2020 Georgia Minority Business Awards “The Year of the Entrepreneurs”

ATLANTA, GA -- On July 23, 2020 at 5:00PM at the Georgia International Convention Center (GICC), the Georgia Minority Business Awards (GMBA) will host their *24th annual awards dinner* to celebrate minority businesses and entrepreneurs from around Georgia who are making an impact within their perspective business communities. The GMBA represents all people, ethnicities, and cultures. The speakers, CEO's, minority business winners and scholarship recipients represent the best in success and exhibit business ethics and values nationally and throughout the state of Georgia.

Our awards committee recognizes these superior qualities in performance, citizenship, leadership, ethical behavior, diversity and teamwork. These individuals share their philosophy for putting customers first and increasing the value of their companies which make their work-place a great place to work. Additionally, they have had a tremendous impact on the City of Atlanta and the State of Georgia. The keynote speaker for the evening is **Reverend Raphael Warnock, Senior Pastor at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta**. The distinguished host for the evening is Lisa Nicole Cloud, Motivational Speaker. Other special invited dignitaries and guests that will be in attendance includes: Terry Baskin, Clayton County Tax Commissioner, Shannon W. James, Sr. President & CEO of Aerotropolis Atlanta Alliance, and Yutaka Hakamura, Deputy Consul General of Japan.

In partnership with Business Development Initiative, Inc. (BDI), which is an entrepreneurial school for youth in high school and middle school, we encourage the students to attend colleges and universities that focus on International Studies, and IT partnership programs that promote future employment opportunities and corporate growth in Georgia.

What began as merely a vision has turned into a successful annual awards event which businesses and entrepreneurs look forward to being a part of each year. Many thanks to Creed W. Pannell, Jr. for his follow through with the vision and commitment to the leadership of the GMBA. The Year of the Entrepreneur is a theme worthy of repetition and recognition.

“I started these award celebrations to simply acknowledge and congratulate local and small business men and women entrepreneurs who are trendsetters in their own right,” shared Founder and Executive Director Creed W. Pannell, Jr. “Planning to work the plan you create, is merely a good idea; working the plan to work for yourself – makes you an entrepreneur.”

### **GMBA will honor the following individuals:**

- (1) Mike Bell, **CEO of the Year Award**
- (2) Angelyne Butler, **Mayor of the Year Award**
- (3) Louis Gossett, Jr., **The Lifetime Achievement Award**
- (4) Shandry Law, **The John Lu International Business of the Year Award**
- (5) Dr. Millard James Collier Jr, **HealthCare Industry of the Year Award**
- (6) Sanquinetta Dover, **The Heritage Award**
- (7) Harold Hardnett, **City CEO of the Year**
- (8) Shequilla Bohannon, **Humanitarian of The Year Award**
- (9) Lonnie Abdul Saboor, **The Entrepreneurial Business Development of the Year**

- (10) Elisabeth Omilami, **Non-profit Organization of the Year**
- (11) Gabby and Madi, **Youth Entrepreneur of the Year**
- (12) Bettina McDowell, **Community Investment Award**
- (13) Arthur Queen, **The GMBA Pannell Award for Entrepreneurship**

**Our proud sponsors are:** Georgia Power, Atlanta Business Journal Magazine, ABJ Digital, BDI, Inc., POP Displays, Technique Concrete Construction, City of Forest Park, Farmer's Basket, Chinese Community Center, Dover Staffing, Concerned Black Clergy, WYZE, South Fulton Chamber of Commerce, Influencer 365, Waste Industries, S.T.R.E.A.M., and Future Entrepreneurs Chamber of Commerce.

**About the Georgia Minority Business Awards:**

The Georgia Minority Business Awards is mandated to evolve and effect change to sustain and propel the vision in this 21st century. The awards sponsoring magazine, the Atlanta Business Journal and ABJ Digital are proud to serve as a catalyst for a new generation of business owners which notably serve as a valuable trend indicator in "Building Cultural and Global Relationships."

We embrace diversity, overcome cultural obstacles and continue to build global relationships. The amalgamation of minds forms partnerships thus creating common ground for success and achievement.

The names, Atlanta Business Journal and Georgia Minority Business Awards reflects our dedication to help generate awareness about the positive changes and the collective successes of the multi-cultural communities and we look forward to continuing to share and recognize those collective successes for years to come.

**GMBA Dinner**

**Date: July 23, 2020**

**Time: 5:00**

**Location: Georgia International Convention Center (GICC)  
2000 Convention Center Concourse, Atlanta, GA 30337**

**For tickets, please visit**

<http://gaminoritybusinessawards.com/>

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