The Los Angeles Business Journal presents

ASIAN BUSINESS AWARDS 2014

This special advertising supplement did not involve the reporting or editing staff of the Los Angeles Business Journal.
Publisher’s Letter

We’re excited to present you with the 2014 celebration of one of the most dynamic sectors of business today -- the Asian business community of greater Los Angeles!

To get an idea of the impact that Asian-owned and managed organizations are making on our business landscape, you need look no further than the many success stories that appear across our pages in the Los Angeles Business Journal. It’s only natural that we feature a spotlight on these fascinating companies with great stories and terrific leaders.

Whether they are emerging organizations, large established business institutions, or non-profit organizations, each plays a role in helping to keep the fabric of our collective community strong.

So once again we have scoured through the many great stories of Asian business success in our region to single out some of the most outstanding organizations and leaders who are setting an example that all of us doing business in the region can follow.

The awards ceremony, along with the special supplement we produce within this paper, sharing our honorees’ terrific success stories and contributions to Los Angeles business as a whole, is an event we are particularly proud of. This special section you are reading spotlights the very special honorees we celebrated at the 2014 Awards luncheon on Wednesday, July 23rd at the Omni Hotel & Resort Los Angeles.

This year, five extraordinary honoree organizations were announced - and are profiled in this section, alongside two very special honoree distinctions for individuals - the 'Asian Business Lifetime Achievement Award' and the 'Rising Star Award.' We applaud each of our honorees, as well as the wonderful collection of finalists, also listed in these pages.

We hope you enjoy this special section, which contains some insights on the creative ways in which some of LA’s leading Asian businesses have made prestigious names for themselves.

Special thanks go out this year to our presenting sponsors, California Bank & Trust and Etihad Airways. And again, congratulations to all the great Asian businesses in Los Angeles that play such an integral role in our business community as a whole.

Best regards,

Matthew A. Toledo
Publisher & CEO
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NEWEGG is a leading e-retailer based in City of Industry. The company was founded in 2001 and, from the beginning, has maintained strong ties to Asia. In those years, the e-commerce industry was struggling. Yet the company’s executive committee saw past those struggles and was motivated to bring greater choice and value to U.S. customers, while providing a boost to Asian markets by bringing their products to the U.S. Ultimately, Newegg’s vision prevailed and the company accrued a devoted customer base that appreciates the diversity and value of Newegg’s product portfolio.

Newegg’s success benefits not only the greater Los Angeles area, but the Asian economy as well. The company has always remained deeply rooted in its Asian heritage. To that end, Newegg’s ‘First from Asia’ program brings the latest and greatest products from Asia to the U.S. market. First from Asia gives U.S. customers access to some of the hottest, most trend-setting products. Products featured in Newegg’s ‘First from Asia’ program include highly sought-after consumer electronics, premium fashion accessories and other unique toys and gadgets.

Under the stewardship of its COO, James Wu, Newegg maintains a strong presence in Asia, pursuing various opportunities to engage with up-and-coming Asian companies. In June 2014, Newegg traveled to the Computex tradeshow in Taipei. While at this tradeshow, the company hosted a workshop-style roundtable event that brought together Asia-based partner companies that found success in the U.S. market thanks to Newegg, along with emerging Asian companies considering expansion beyond their native roots. The event was a tremendous success, attended by vendors, journalists, industry analysts and other key players within the e-commerce sector.
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*This facility is only available for guests flying to New York (EY101), Chicago (EY151), Washington DC (EY131) and Los Angeles (EY171).
AFFE Luxxe captures the unique spirit of the Los Angeles business community at its most innovative, entrepreneurial and diverse. This is in part the reflection of co-owner and creative director Gary Chau’s personal upbringing and background.

Creating the experience of community, through a shared social intimacy of small luxuries, details and gestures, is the basis of the Caffe Luxxe business model. The success of the Caffe Luxxe Third Wave concept may be measured in profits: the gross revenue of the company for the year 2011 was less than $2 million. For 2012 and 2013, profits have been between $2 million and $5 million.

Chau was born in Los Angeles. As a child, he left LA to live with his grandparents in Bangkok and Hong Kong until the age of 14. During those years, he grew up in close proximity with the day-to-day of operating a family business, since his grandmother was a restaurateur. During his years at boarding school in Bangkok, his peers were international, many of them being the children of diplomats and expats from every point on the globe. Not only did he learn English in this polyglot setting—the experience sparked his curiosity for world-culture.

Connection and interaction are at the heart of the Caffe Luxxe formula for success. Big proponents for building the local community, Caffe Luxxe moved in 2012 from roasting its beans in Seattle to roasting them in Gardena at Il Laboratorio, their own roasting facility where they roast their beans in the Northern Italian style. Also, Caffe Luxxe is dedicated to fair wages and respectful working conditions for employees. From the brand’s inception, employees here have always been paid more than minimum wage.

Diagnostic Medical Group of Southern California

In the early 1980s, when Dr. David C.P. Chen was an associate professor at the USC School of Medicine, he noticed that members of the Asian community who needed medical diagnostics such as X-rays, CT Scans or MRIs, had no place to go that spoke their first language.

In 1984, Dr. Chen decided to do something about it and opened Diagnostic Medical Group of Southern California in San Gabriel. He hired technicians and doctors that were fluent in at least two Asian languages (Chinese, Cantonese, Vietnamese or Mandarin) as well as English. The office was an immediate success and became a vital resource for the Asian community. After a successful decade, the demand for Diagnostic Medical’s services increased and Dr. Chen opened a second location in Monterey Park in 1994. Ten years later, a third location in City of Industry was opened.

The City of Industry location brought many Hispanic patients, so Diagnostic Medical Group of Southern California added Spanish to the languages spoken. Currently, this multi-million dollar company has 90 employees and serves 20% Hispanic patients, 20% Caucasian patients and 60% Asian patients.

While filling an essential hole in healthcare for the Asian community gained Diagnostic Medical initial success, focusing on customers’ happiness and treating employees like family are factors that separate Diagnostic Medical of Southern California from many other companies.

For patients, the organization strives to make the diagnostic process as stress-free as possible, creating a warm environment in all three of the offices, explaining everything in detail to patients, and most importantly, getting test results back as quickly as possible.

For employees, they are not only treated like family, they are family. Each year, Dr. Chen takes every employee, and their families, on a trip together. They go to San Diego, Santa Barbara, or another great Southern California location. This trip is the highlight of the year for their employees – something they look forward to and talk about the rest of the year.

Diagnostic Medical’s commitment to the community is also a strong suit. The organization donates money and time to local schools, the police fund, Chinese festivals in the San Gabriel area and the American Cancer Society.

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Caffe Luxxe is an active participant in the culture of the Westside in various ways. Throughout the year, the three locations support the arts scene which flourishes in the area, and the Montana Avenue venue often hosts art exhibits, book signings and other events representing the creative talents of Caffe Luxxe Juroji and cafe patrons. They were also invited by 20TH Century Fox to serve their coffee at this year’s Golden Globe Awards.
Morgan Stanley is proud to congratulate
Sean Yu

a winner of the 2014
Los Angeles Business Journal’s
Asian Business Award

Sean was also ranked #7 among all financial advisors in the United States by On Wall Street’s 2014 Top 40 Under 40 list.

We salute all of the 2014 winners and Finalists of this prestigious award.

Sean Yu, CFP®, CPWA*
Managing Director —
Wealth Management
Portfolio Manager
Wealth Advisor

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Morgan Stanley

On Wall Street’s Top 40 Under 40 asks brokerage firms to nominate their top ten young brokers. Of those nominated, On Wall Street bases its rankings on quantitative and qualitative criteria: the nominee’s assets under management and trailing 12-month production, separate from a team; the percentage of the nominee’s new business; the types of products sold by the nominee; and the percentage of the business that is fee-based versus commission-based. Additional measures include an interview and a compliance check. For more information on ranking methodology, go to http://www.onwallstreet.com/asset/article/61035/1/wall-street-top-40-under-40.html. The rating is not indicative of the advisor’s future performance. Neither Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC nor its financial advisors pay a fee to On Wall Street in exchange for the rating.

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Nominees are businesses within the Asian American business community who are setting the example for excellence throughout Greater Los Angeles. Nominations can be submitted by a client, a vendor or an organization for consideration of this award.

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ANXI Liu, at a mere 23 years of age, has accomplished more than many hope to achieve in a lifetime. Currently, she is CEO of Enplug, Inc., a Los Angeles company that has built the first real time, interactive advertising platform for the physical world. Enplug’s network of AURA Social Billboards is located in high foot-traffic venues such as Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf cafes and Amoeba Music record stores. Viewers can use their Facebook, Foursquare, and Twitter apps to interact with the screen’s content.

Prior to Enplug, Liu founded Nanoly Bioscience, a company that develops polymers that enable vaccines to survive without refrigeration. Nanoly Bioscience was named Intel’s Top Social Innovation of 2012 and named Top Research at the World Biomaterials Congress. Prior to Nanoly, Liu worked in investment banking at Goldman Sachs, municipal derivatives trading at Citigroup, and engineering at Cisco Systems.

Liu grew up in rural China in a village with no running water. She then moved to Colorado with her parents and grew up in a low-income neighborhood. Attending UC Berkeley for college, she paid her entire tuition through scholarships. While in high school, Liu was elected Colorado Youth Governor and helped draft the Sudanese Divestment Bill, which was signed into Colorado law by Governor Bill Ritter in 2007. For her civic work, she was 1 of 7 recipients of Mobilize.org’s National Leadership Award along with Senator John Edwards and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. In 2011, she won the Miss Oakland competition.

While at UC Berkeley, Liu developed a text-based 911 system for the campus police department that was an award recipient from the Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society. In addition, she has created an advanced caller-ID mobile app, a custom spam blocker for internet browsers, and a dating advice site, which are all available online.

Nanxi is also a concert-pianist who has performed piano live on NBC and at TEDx. Nanxi earned a BS and BA from UC Berkeley. Nanxi currently serves as a board member of the Los Angeles Venture Association, board member of UNICEF’s Chinese Children’s Initiative, and youth advisory board member of Lady Gaga’s Born This Way Foundation.

The mission of the Asian American Drug Abuse Program (AADAP) is to change lives and save families by providing comprehensive substance abuse and other social services for Asian Pacific Islander and other diverse communities. AADAP had its origins in 1972 when the Asian American and Pacific Islander community learned the stunning news that 31 youth of Asian American descent had died of drug overdoses that year. Community leaders convened to discuss ways to address the growing problem and decided that what was needed was an organization devoted to the treatment and prevention of substance abuse. AADAP was formed as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides comprehensive services to help mitigate the impact of substance abuse and addiction in the Asian and Pacific Islander communities of Los Angeles county. AADAP has operated continuously for 40 years and led the way as a positive influencer and partner to its clients, their families, and the region it serves. Its multi-faceted range of services includes employment access, residential therapeutic treatment, outpatient care, prevention, gang intervention, and youth and family services. More recently, AADAP programs have also addressed issues related to water conservation, HIV/AIDS outreach and case training, employment, drug court services, and tobacco education.

A cornerstone of the organization’s success has been its President and CEO, Mike Watanabe. Watanabe has built a career around community service, and has been an active figure in the Asian Pacific American social movement for 40 years, making a lasting impact on the current form and status of Asian Pacific Islander activism and social services. A Vietnam Veteran, he returned to a society in political turmoil and societal upheaval. In the midst of this, he saw his own Japanese American community and fellow Asian Americans struggling to find support for necessary services. There were no public agencies able to meet the specific needs of Asian families, and many that were struggling were falling through the cracks. He was accepted into the Masters of Social Work program at UCLA, and he joined AADAP as the Residential Services Coordinator in 1977, and has been with the agency for 37 years, currently serving as its leader.

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J.P. Wang earned his bachelor’s degree in electronic engineering from the National Taiwan Ocean University and his master’s degree in computer engineering at California State University, Long Beach. He also holds an MBA from the University of Southern California.

He and his wife Alice started Golden Star Technology (GST) in 1984. Since its humble beginnings, the company has grown to become one of the largest privately owned IT solutions providers in Southern California with over $90 million in annual revenue. GST employs over 100 people and has branch offices in Cerritos, Las Vegas, Miami, Redlands and Riverside.

GST’s primary mission has always been to become its clients’ trusted adviser by delivering best of breed solutions. This is accomplished by increasing organizational productivity and scalability, while lowering operational costs.

Early beginnings saw Wang and GST in the business of simply selling computers. As the company grew, it began to provide clients with targeted, custom-created technology solutions. Swift progress in this area quickly presented GST with a turning point in its plans for growth. Wang and his team refined their channels of distribution and concentrated resources on maintaining the quality of the company’s core offerings, opening up new technological opportunities for clients.

Since then, GST has seen an ongoing increase in client base and profitability. Over the years, he has come to realize the core attributes that have kept GST at the forefront of its industry. Wang strongly believes that the performance of his team members has contributed to much of his success, and he endeavors to reward and recognize them for their professionalism and expertise.

GST’s ability to serve its customers expanded in 2002 when the Wangs merged the company with E-Systems Design to augment their procurement management, online ordering and processing, technical and professional services, and network management capabilities.

Wang and his wife are also very active in the community. The AJ Wang Foundation was established in 2008 in order to provide funding to various educational institutions to pursue programs to support students. As their life-long goal to “give back” to the communities that supported them to realize their own dreams, the Wangs established this Foundation to support those with the greatest need.
The role of in-house counsel has never been more important or more visible as companies face increasingly complex legal and regulatory challenges. The Los Angeles Business Journal would like to acknowledge the significant role that in-house counsel plays in the success of a business enterprise and recognize the accomplishments of leading in-house attorneys within the Los Angeles business community.

Candidates in each category will be recognized for exceptional legal skill and achievement across the full spectrum of in-house responsibility, exemplary leadership as evidenced by the highest professional and ethical standards, and for contributions to the Los Angeles community at large.

Nomination Deadline: Monday, September 1, 2014

Awards will be presented in the following categories:

- Public Company
- Private Company
- Nonprofit Company
- Government/Municipal/Public Sector
- Rising Star

To nominate for this event please visit www.labusinessjournal.com/bizevents, or contact Mary Kaminski at 323.549.5225 ext. 213

email: mkaminski@socalbusinessjournals.com

ABA salutes and congratulates the winners of the LABJ Asian Business Awards.

Nanxi Liu, Enplug
Gary Chau, Caffe Luxxe
David C. P. Chen, Diagnostic Medical Group of Southern California
JP Wang, Golden Star Technology
Mike Watanabe, Asian American Drug Abuse Program
James Wu, Newegg Inc.
Sean Yu, Morgan Stanley
Iwamoto believes that creating quality personnel, and created the Sales and Management Development program to train 24Hr HomeCare employees for a career in either sales management or operations management. 365HANGERS
365HANGERS founder Ferial Moloo is of Southeast Asian descent, having migrated to USA from Pakistan in 1990. Her grandmother was the first from the family to come to US almost 40 years ago and the entire extended family resides in Southern California. Moloo, an entrepreneur at heart, is working in the areas of digital content, gamification, and social media technology. Her company, 365HANGERS has an extensive presence in high-end fashion and trendy lifestyle promotions through new media platforms. 365HANGERS is, in short, a progressive fashion and lifestyle company with a compelling proposition for today’s consumer. With her Masters in Organizational Management, Moloo brings to her business a specialization in the areas of digital media and marketing, social media campaigns, content creation, and e-commerce. She was recognized as the “CEO of the Year” by Women 2.0 in 2010, and was also awarded with the honor of “Women of Achievement” by the City of Los Angeles.

Aahs! Enterprises Inc.
Aahs! Enterprises was established in 1994 by Toy Quan to open up their own garment factory. Today, that company is 3A Products — the exclusive distributor of thread made by the largest thread company in Taiwan. It has also become the one-stop shop for the industry, selling non-thread garment products — anything a company could need to make clothes. Aahs! Enterprises Inc. was the first Aahs! Enterprise store opened its doors in 1994, in a modest 200 sq. ft. showroom in Santa Monica. The established customers of the Aahs! Gift store welcomed the Aahs! Novelty, Cards, & Gift Stores.

Jung
Jung passed away and Mrs. Casselberry took the time to teach him the ins and outs of the industry. In 1975, when Mr. Casselberry retired, Jung recruited his brother-in-law, Toy Quan to open up their own garment factory. Today, that company is 3A Products — the exclusive distributor of thread made by the largest thread company in Taiwan. It has also become the one-stop shop for the industry, selling non-thread garment products — anything a company could need to make clothes.

3A Products of America
Arriving in Los Angeles in 1968 with his wife and three-month old baby, Wayne Jung started his life in America with a job in the booming garment factories. Jung swept the floors and kept the factories clean for the owners, the Casselberys, but he was no ordinary janitor. Jung wanted to learn everything he could about the company and the industry. He took English classes at night, and, while fulfilling his janitorial duties, he studied everything he could during the day. Noticing and appreciating his tenacity, the Casselberys fostered his spirit and took the time to teach him the ins and outs of the industry.

Ahmc Healthcare Inc.
Formed in November 2004, AHMC & Healthcare Inc. owns and operates seven medical centers, including continued on page 40
One part of hedge fund management just got easier: Finding the right advice to fit your size.

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Allahabaher Hospital Medical Center, Anaheim Regional Medical Center, Garfield Medical Center, Greater El Monte Community Hospital, Monterey Park Hospital, San Gabriel Valley Medical Center, and Whittier Hospital Medical Center. In conjunction with Allahabaher Medical University, Allahabaher Medical & Cosmetic Center, Montclair Biochemical Technology Co., Ltd, AHMC Liver Center, and AHMC International Cancer Center, AHMC & Healthcare Inc. seeks to meet and exceed a multitude of needs by emphasizing innovative, technological, and cultural development in the community. The company is led by Jonathan Wu, M.D., Ph.D., who serves as the organization’s Chairman and President.

Since 2004, AHMC & Healthcare Inc. has grown to more than 1,200 beds with an approximated 7,000 employees and 3,000 physicians, all committed to providing the highest quality care for the community. AHMC Healthcare Inc. is also recognized for culturally sensitive and compassionate care for the San Gabriel Valley geographic area it serves.

Andrew & Sons Tradings, Inc.

Andrew & Sons Tradings is a successful online retail company led by Andrew Lu, a China born entrepreneur who came to the United States in the year 2000. The year 2012 saw a huge turning point in the company history and the sales of its Boston Shoes brand. That year, Lu moved into a large warehouse in the heart of “Shoe District” in the City of Industry. In just two years, the company had moved from a mini storage of 1000 sq. ft. to 12,000 sq. ft. In two years, the number of employees grew from four to 20 people in the US and from eight to 25 people in the company’s China office. Meanwhile, the sales have grown from one million to around ten million.

Lu understands that each business must be specialized and so has stayed away from becoming a shoe importer (Boston Shoes are not Chinese imports). Lu has maintained the clear goal of making Andrew’s & Sons, as well as Boston Shoes, a successful online retailer while playing the role of fulfillment center.

APEX Professional Exchange

APEX Asian Professional Exchange is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, non-partisan community based organization with multifaceted goals and purposes that are charitable, cultural and educational in nature. APEX was established in 1993, and is the leading organization for cultivating the leadership potential of young API professionals in Los Angeles and Orange County. APEX connects non-profits, businesses and communities to an online membership of over 7,000 highly engaged API young professionals. The organization is celebrating its 21st year of 100% volunteer-run service.

The three focal points of APEX’s mission are community service, professional development and cultural awareness. It realizes this mission through nine closely-related programs including: APEX Cares, APEX Mentoring Program, Professional Development, Youth Olympics, Youth Education Summit, Special Events and Board Development. APEX increases civic participation by offering opportunities to make a difference in local communities while strengthening leadership experience. In short, the APEX mission is to be the premier membership organization for Asian Pacific Americans in Southern California who have a strong commitment to excellence in professional development, community service and cultural awareness.

Bank of China

Bank of China is the oldest bank in the world’s top 1000 banks in 2009, and in 2011 and 2012 the Bank was designated as a Global Systemically Important Financial Institution, the only financial institution from China (or in fact any emerging economy) to gain such recognition. Thanks in no small part to the efforts of its Los Angeles office and LA-based Vice President Jason Fu, the Bank has also made a successful entry into the US commercial lending market, providing corporate and commercial financing to some of the US’s most prestigious companies. And in 2013, Bank of China was one of the largest commercial real estate lenders in the United States.

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

Within the offices of Coldwell Banker Residential Mortgage works one of the most well-rounded and professional mortgage lenders in the United States.

For 30 years, Diagnostic Medical Group of Southern California has been servicing the community with complete outpatient imaging:

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- CT scans
- Diagnostic X-Rays
- Ultrasounds
- EKG
- Bone Density Screenings
- Early Screenings & Diagnostic Mammography
- Also offering ABUS, (Automatic Breast Ultrasound) our new state of the art ultrasound technology for women who have dense breasts

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City of Industry, CA 91748
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2014 ASIAN BUSINESS AWARDS FINALISTS

**Daw Yee Myanmar Café**
Daw Yee Myanmar Café is named after Chef/Owner Delyn Chow’s mother. Daw Yee, who had endured six years of her young adult life in a political prison. After her release, she preserved to establish herself in Taiwan and ultimately to California, where in 1998, she proudly opened the first Burmese restaurant in Los Angeles. From 1998 to 2001, the Yummy Restaurant comfort food from home to the LA area Burmese community. Inspired by her mother’s efforts, Chow led Daw Yee Myanmar Café to its grand opening on January of 2013. Sometimes the American dream is built upon generations. With this new restaurant, Chow hopes to carry on the American Dream her mom had envisioned and grow this mom-and-son establishment into an American corporate success.

**Evie Jeang**
Evie Jeang is an educational consulting company that provides comprehensive College Admissions and Academic Counseling programs and services for students starting as early as middle school. At College Launch, students and families are guided by a diverse yet collaborative team of college admission experts and academic coaches. Led by president and co-founder Tammy Huang-Anacleto, the organization holistically mentors students to develop the confidence, knowledge, skills, and mindset to discover their talents, gifts, and passions.

Employing a unique approach to personal, academic and leadership development, College Launch’s team partners with families to support students in building their own distinctive brand. Through this collaborative process, College Launch has coached students to become compelling candidates at selective colleges, including the Ivy league, Stanford, MIT, and Caltech, to name a few. Since its founding in 2004, 100% of its students have gained admission to one of their top choice colleges. Services are provided in Old Pasadena. Students and families also meet with College Launch via Skype from Asia and any local or international location.

**Ideal Legal Group, Inc.**
Ideal Legal Group, Inc. congratulates Evie Jeang on her recognition by the Los Angeles Business Journal 2014 Asian Business Awards Finalist

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**Paving the way to a brighter future**

**Dr. Bhavin S. Gandhi DDS Inc.**
Influential and impactful at the ground level of humanity are two major aspects in anyone’s life: health care and finances. Dr. Bhavin S. Gandhi, with his dental practice, finds a way to make each of these accessible to anyone through his volunteerism and his ability to inspire others. A dentist by training, he brings comfort to every patient that walks through his office while finding time to volunteer around the world at his own expense. Each year, he hosts Dental Health Month education workshops for local K – 3 grade students. Some of these students then learn the basics about researching companies and their stock portfolios to assess risk of investment from Dr. Gandhi a few years later.

Financial knowledge is the key to independence for most people yet even the “wealthiest” seem to make rookie mistakes. Dr. Gandhi started an investment club with some friends 18 years ago with each member contributing $20/month. He started volunteering to teach 5th graders the basics about researching companies and their stock portfolios to assess risk to which he continues to this day.

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THE Los Angeles Business Journal again has won the top prize for large business journals: The Gold award for Best Newspaper from the Alliance of Area Business Publishers. In fact, it’s the fifth time in the last six years that our newspaper has essentially been named the best business journal in the country. That’s a historic run. We love what the judges said — “The writing is bright; reporters dig deep” — because writing and reporting are at the heart of what we do. But we also excel at photography, design, headlines and the other aspects that make a great newspaper. As you can see on the next page, we won awards in those categories, too. Most of all, thank you for being a Business Journal reader and helping us make history.

Charles Crumpley
Editor

Matthew A. Toledo
Publisher & CEO
SILVER
Best Investigative Story
‘Developer Money Crosses the Line?’
ALFRED LEE

BRONZE
Best Print Scoop
‘Might OxyDitch L.A. HQ to Hang Its Hat in Houston?’
HOWARD FINE

BRONZE
Best Feature Layout
Wealthiest Angelenos
ROBERT LANDRY

BRONZE
Best Special Section Design
Wealthiest Angelenos
ROBERT LANDRY

GOLD
Best Newspaper
LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL

SILVER
Best Feature
‘Riches Under the Radar’
JAMES REFUS KOREN

SILVER
Best Body of Work
ALFRED LEE

SILVER
Best Investigative Story
‘Developer Money Crosses the Line?’
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ROBERT LANDRY

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING
ERI Program Reporting
ALFRED LEE

BREAKING NEWS
Amazon Delivery Service Coming to L.A.
JAMES REFUS KOREN

JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR
ALFRED LEE

PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR
All publication categories
RINGO H.W. CHU

FIRST
Sports
‘Online Drive’
DAVID NUSBAUM

FIRST
Headline
‘Date App Makes Move on Friends’
TOM HICKS

SECOND
Columnist
CHARLES CRUMPLEY

SECOND
Headline
‘Claws Cling Clank’
TOM HICKS

SECOND
Business
‘To the Rescue’
JAMES REFUS KOREN

THIRD
Personality Profile
‘Russell Goldsmith: Taking Image Into Account’
ALFRED LEE

THIRD
Entertainment
‘Future Focus’
JONATHAN POLAKOFF
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2014 ASIAN BUSINESS AWARDS

Finalists

Fluff Ice LLC

Fluff Ice is the brainchild of four friends: Nicholas Huang, Matthew Hui, Annie Tran, and David Wang. As COO of The Mobile Majority, Sam Kim maintains company operations and alignment for the Los Angeles headquarters, as well as the rapidly growing offices in San Francisco and New York.

The Mobile Majority’s product offering includes international mobile ad products, ranging from video and rich media to app discovery and retention. Each ad unit is highly customizable, so the content and delivery can be tailored to achieve a client’s unique objectives. One such objective that many clients share is the goal of delivering personal mobile experiences. Reaching large and relevant audiences may be simple enough on television or radio, but the technical differences and disparities among various mobile publishers make it a difficult goal to achieve. Ads that display perfectly on one network may appear as stretched or cropped in another. This lack of consistency is a concern that many clients have identified when it comes to advertising on mobile.

MYNG Architects

In the 11 years since friends Wai-Ming Chow and Miyung Song sat down for coffee and hatched a plan to start their own architecture firm, they have gained a reputation for completing the most challenging projects while keeping their clients at the top priority. Their guiding principle: treat each project as a unique one, whether a small remodel or a large complex project.

The journey in which MYNG has arrived to their current success...
2014 ASIAN BUSINESS AWARDS

Required a large amount of dedication, sacrifice and perseverance from the founders. Without any potential clients on hand, the partners took the leap of faith that their design skills and work ethic will lead them to success. Today, MYNG has found their niche in healthcare design and have established their presence in the industry. They have completed over 400 projects with the same care and diligence as if every project was their first. MYNG has become a trusted partner in the healthcare field, one that clients call on for challenging projects that require an innovative approach.

Chou

NexGen Wealth Management
Who do young entrepreneurs and business owners in their 30s and 40s turn to for unbiased professional advice when their assets may not meet the minimum of many “old school” wealth management firms? Who can they trust? That is the motivation behind Andrew Chou’s decision to found NexGen Wealth Management. He wanted to create a wealth management firm from the ground up to service the needs of young, ambitious, and successful business owners. To do so, he has assembled a team of highly qualified advisors, including attorneys, CPAs, bankers, etc. to serve his clients personal, and business financial needs. NexGen’s team of advisors, like its clients, are mostly young business owners who understand the needs and wants of Generation Y. Since the firm’s founding in 2013, NexGen Wealth Management has experienced explosive growth in terms of number of clients and asset under management. NexGen continues to offer innovative investment strategies, as well as completely objective financial advice backed by its team of attorneys, CPAs and CPA.

Tsang

Para Light Corporation
As a young man, Eric Tsang started working for his father in Taiwan at Para Light Corporation. In 1994, he came to study Engineering and Computer Science at Rutgers, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree. After graduation, Tsang headed to California to start the US division of Para Light Corporation. Para Light specializes in providing LED lighting to clients such as SYSCO, Microsoft, Whirlpool, United technology and many other recognizable names in the LED field. Both Tsang and his wife work at the US division of Para Light where they employ 10 people. Tsang and Para Light have also been involved in a charitable effort to retrofit an entire village in mainland China. The entire city of Guan Nan, which is a relatively poor city, was modernized with new LED lighting. In addition, Tsang was also involved in helping modernize several schools in rural China to help students go to school in a more modernized environment.

Halm

Petit Kohn Ingram & Lutz
David G. Halm is the managing shareholder of Petit Kohn Ingram & Lutz’ Los Angeles office and chairs the firm’s Diversity Committee. As one of the firm’s original shareholders, Halm’s leadership guided the firm’s Los Angeles office from three attorneys to the current 10 attorneys today. His practice focuses on civil litigation with an emphasis on business, real estate and personal injury matters.

Wang

Realplay, Corp.
Tony Wang has grown his company, Realplay, Corp. from zero sales to over $15 million in sales in less than two years. He is a tireless president presiding over a company that offers a popular line of shoes. Realplay is a family affair; both Wang’s father and his sister work in the company. Realplay strives to keep its line of shoes very up-to-date and as a result, consistently sells to many stores in malls across the US.

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Wang and Realplay stay current with the latest trends in business and constantly transforming the product line. When you walk into Realplay headquarters in the City of Industry, you will see an impressive quantity of shoe and boot designs and prototypes, as well as many different shoes on display. Realplay sells its merchandise as a wholesaler. The line is produced in China and Wang travels back and forth between China and California regularly.

Rolling Robots

Dr. George Kirkman and his wife Bing Jang founded Rolling Robots Inc. in 2008. It was a time when our country was in recession and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education was not as prevalent as it has now become. Dr. Kirkman has extensive technical knowledge and startup experience and true passion for robots and teaching. Jang has a Master’s Degree in Physics, loves children and is passionate about youth education. Both of them have been long time aerospace engineers. Their novel idea was to create an entertainment retail facility with an exciting robot battle game arena and variety of retail products (focusing on robotics kits and toys). To round out the experience, they created an experience model providing robot building birthday parties and robotics workshops. They opened 2 locations in the LA area and fulfilled many of their old-fashioned ways. To date, SYNHERGY completely re-branded social media. After a year and a half, SYNHERGY started its own company, Sun Dragon Import, to import specialty yarns. She wanted to create a niche market by using her knowledge after many years of working in the dyes house industry and with a chemistry background. She saw an opportunity in that there were not many specialty yarns in the market and no special fibers used in the blending process as well. Most of the yarns used included basic cotton or poly/cotton blends. Communicating with her old China Textile University school friends, she started introducing new yarns with new fibers. This new approach got noticed by many major brands and retailers in the US. Her product acceptance grew very fast and she captured a big market share competing with many well-established and large yarn suppliers. This is the ninth year since the company formed, and Sun Dragon has reached gross sales of $30 million from $227,000 in its first year. In addition, they have eight full time staff members and over 100 independent contractor companies worldwide.

SYNHERGY Marketing, LLC

Dimple Thakkar, CEO & Inispenso of SYNHERGY to break free from the status quo. SYNHERGY began as a full-service music entertainment company in 2008 with a focus in social media. After a year and a half, SYNHERGY completely re-branded itself to serve a more diverse clientele and dropped all other services except for social media marketing. A smart entrepreneur learns how to detect factors that increases profit. The changes Thakkar and her team strategized were implemented for that very reason. They also enabled SYNHERGY to create a business model that was self-pricing and adjustable.

Well ahead of the curve by starting a social media marketing company, Thakkar and SYNHERGY stood out while a lot of the bigger marketing agencies seemed stuck in their old-fashioned ways. To date, SYNHERGY has won several awards and accolades including Small Business of the Year with the US Chamber of Commerce along with being recognized by Mashable as a top-nominated social media agency. Not only does the company have a large list of accolades, but also it does its part in giving back to the community and inspiring entrepreneurs.

WinCorp Solutions

WinCorp Solutions has been in business since 2009 and was founded by Tom Nguyen, Senior Partner, Co-Founder and Operations Partner. WinCorp Solutions is an award winning consulting and staffing company that supports many clients with talent needs across their organizations. Very few companies are vertically integrated solutions companies that deliver in distinctly three divisions (Finance, Technology & Engineering), specializing in consulting, temporary or permanent needs and specialty training. Because the Principals and employees are technical subject matter experts (SMEs), clients see this approach as specialized and unique and the result is training and screening of employees and consulting teams that are deployed to demanding global FORTUNE 500 companies nationwide.

Already armed with decades of 360 degree view of talent needs from the consulting and business development perspective, WinCorp Solutions was founded. WinCorp Solutions has amassed a wide client portfolio in multiple industries, including diverse and notable clients, such as, the Walt Disney Co., Broadcom, Metropolitan Transit Authority and over a dozen others.

Winces Wong, CPA, A Professional Corporation

Established in 1999, Winces Wong, CPA, A Professional Corporation, has enjoyed consistent growth over its 15 years. Starting from a small office of three desks and two cabinets, the firm now reports annual revenue of close to a million dollars. It is a full-service accounting and consulting firm located in Alhambra, servicing clients locally in California, across the United States and internationally, with clients overseas residing in Canada, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, and Australia. The firm’s principal, Winces Wong, has significant years of public accounting experience and her strong auditing background can minimize the risk of being audited by tax agencies. The firm has expertise in wholesale, import & export, physicians, legal, restaurants, retail, auto body & repair, construction, company, merchant services, marketing, internet sales, real estate development, computer consulting, dentists, freight forwarding, veterinarians, money transfer, and other companies.
More than 320 attendees were on hand for the Business Journal’s Asian Business Awards reception and luncheon at the Omni Los Angeles Hotel.