

E Pluribus Unum PRIZES

*Recognizing
Exceptional
U.S. Immigrant
Integration
Initiatives*



Awards Ceremony

MAY 18, 2011



Pavilion, Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center
May 18, 2011

Opening Remarks

Demetrios Papademetriou

President, MPI

Keynote

The Honorable Arne Duncan

US Secretary of Education

Presentation of the *E Pluribus Unum* Prizes

Michael Fix

Senior Vice President and Co-Director, MPI National Center
on Immigrant Integration Policy

Margie McHugh

Co-Director, MPI National Center on
Immigrant Integration Policy

2011 Winners

Hispanic Economic Development Corporation of Kansas City

Bernardo Ramirez, Executive Director

International Rescue Committee in San Diego

Bob Montgomery, Executive Director

Temple University Intergenerational Center

Patience Lehrman, Director of Project SHINE

Welcome Back Initiative

José Ramón Fernández-Peña, Founder and Director

Presentation of the Corporate Leadership Award

Peter W. Davidson

Chairman, J.M. Kaplan Fund

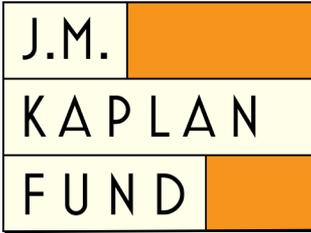
Marriott International, Inc.

M. Andy Chaves, Corporate Senior Manager

Closing Remarks

Brad Davidson

Trustee, J.M. Kaplan Fund



Dear Friends,

The J.M. Kaplan Fund proudly supports the 3rd annual *E Pluribus Unum Prizes*, in partnership with the National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy at the Migration Policy Institute. The breadth and depth of this year's remarkable applicant pool for the Prizes reaffirm our conviction that immigrants renew and strengthen America and energize our economy, and that Americans who welcome newcomers serve both their communities and their country.

My grandfather, a child of immigrants, built the J.M. Kaplan Fund on three pillars: hard work, open arms, and open minds. These core civic virtues continue to animate the Fund's grant making in general and its support for *E Pluribus Unum* in particular. We hope that the success stories exemplified by this year's exceptional awardees will inspire others to emulate their demonstrations and example.

We thank MPI, the dedicated experts on the prize selection committee, and the hundreds of people who were good enough to share their stories and impressive accomplishments with us.

Yours truly,

Peter Davidson
Chairman, J.M. Kaplan Fund



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to the 3rd annual *E Pluribus Unum Prizes* ceremony, honoring the exemplary work of organizations from across the United States that work tirelessly to help immigrants and their children become full participants in the life of our vibrant, welcoming nation, which has gained so much from the incorporation of peoples from across the globe.

The Prizes program allows us a rare opportunity to recognize the truly exceptional integration initiatives that assist newcomers who arrive in this country with great hope and resolve to build a better life. This year's five winning initiatives team with dedicated leaders and innovators who daily are creating pathways for immigrants and immigrant entrepreneurs to adapt, succeed, and contribute to the lifeblood of our country, building stronger communities for themselves and native-born Americans alike.

We extend our thanks to the J.M. Kaplan Fund, as always, for their generous support of the Prizes program. And we also are deeply appreciative of our national Advisory Board members, who with great care and deliberation helped us to review the 450 applicants for this year's Prizes and select our winners.

Tonight, America's long-held vision of unity among diverse peoples continues, thanks in no small part to the remarkable efforts of our awardees. We wish them continued success in achieving what our Founding Fathers set as a bedrock principle of the United States: *E Pluribus Unum* – out of many, one.

Sincerely,

Demetrios G. Papademetriou, PhD
President, MPI

Michael Fix
Senior Vice President and
Director of Studies, MPI

Margie McHugh
Co-Director, MPI's National
Center on Immigrant Integration
Policy



Hispanic Economic Development Corporation of Kansas City

Bernardo Ramirez, Executive Director

Founded in 1993, the Hispanic Economic Development Corporation (HEDC) helps immigrant entrepreneurs in Kansas City realize their business potential through business development training and a small-business incubator program.

HEDC's offerings are bilingual and bicultural, providing entrepreneurs guidance from initial start-up through advising them on matters of regulations, expansion, and marketing. It has assisted in the growth of more than 1,100 new immigrant Latino businesses, from restaurants and auto repair shops to accounting and architectural design firms.

HEDC's model focuses on building bridges between immigrant commercial enclaves and the broader community. As individual businesses have taken root and prospered in nontraditional locations, this new development has helped bring economic vitality to once-languishing areas of Kansas City.

HEDC developed the innovative *Primer Paso* (Spanish for First Step) program, a business training course that teaches would-be entrepreneurs everything from preparing feasibility and marketing plans to determining pricing and assessing the potential market for their products or services. The 12-week course is taught by certified instructors.

HEDC's work demonstrates the value that a smart, targeted effort aimed at helping immigrants integrate into U.S. society can have in sparking economic revitalization, breathing new vitality into an important city in the U.S. heartland.



For more on Hispanic Economic Development of Kansas City visit:
www.kchedc.org



International Rescue Committee in San Diego

Bob Montgomery, Executive Director



The International Rescue Committee (IRC) in San Diego is one of 22 branches of the IRC in the United States resettling refugees from war- and disaster-stricken regions around the world. Since opening in San Diego in 1975, the IRC in San Diego has helped tens of thousands of refugees – ranging from Iraqi medical doctors to pre-literate Burmese farmers – successfully resettle and become self-sufficient, productive members of the community.

The IRC in San Diego offers a wide range of programs to help refugees make the often difficult transition to life in the United States, including adult and youth education, career services, English and citizenship instruction, financial literacy courses, and even urban farming. The multi-generational offerings speed

refugees' integration into their new communities and allow them and their children to more fully achieve their potential in the United States.

Each year, the IRC in San Diego resettles some 1,100 refugees, providing them assistance in opening businesses and obtaining jobs, access to credit-building loans, and more. A unique aspect of the IRC in San Diego's approach is that its programs are open to others as well, serving about 5,000 community members a year.

The IRC in San Diego is the first refugee resettlement program to win an E *Pluribus Unum* Prize. Its many creative and effective approaches to addressing the integration needs and challenges that refugees face stood out, as did the focus it places on creating lasting interactions and greater understanding between refugees and members of the native-born community. Hundreds of community members volunteer each year, forming relationships across cultures and maximizing the impact of limited program dollars.

For more on International Rescue Committee in San Diego visit:
www.rescue.org/us-program/us-san-diego-ca





Temple University Intergenerational Center — Project SHINE

Patience Lehrman, Director of Project SHINE

From its inception at Temple University's Intergenerational Center in 1997, Project SHINE (Students Helping In the Naturalization of Elders) has trained college students to work with elderly immigrants and refugees, helping more fully integrate this often overlooked immigrant population into American society.

Project SHINE is now active on 19 campuses and a community nonprofit in nine states — California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Texas — and also partners with immigrant communities and local health/aging networks.

Through Project SHINE, student volunteers are trained to tutor immigrant and refugee seniors in English language and civics education. Student tutors provide at least two hours of mentoring weekly per semester, through one-on-one teaching or in small class settings. Nearly 10,000 college students have worked with more than 40,000 elderly immigrants to improve their English proficiency and prepare for their citizenship exams.

In 2009, Project SHINE's services were extended to include volunteers assisting immigrants with health literacy and healthy aging practices.

Project SHINE offers an excellent demonstration of two-way integration: An elderly immigrant population that is often isolated and harder to reach is helped, and at the same time student mentors are exposed to the rich cultures and experiences of older migrants, deepening their understanding of the world and the elderly.



For more on Temple University Intergenerational Center visit:
www.projectshine.org



Welcome Back Initiative

José Ramón Fernández-Peña, Founder and Director



The Welcome Back Initiative (WBI) is a San Francisco-headquartered organization with nine centers across the United States that help foreign-trained immigrant health professionals to return to the health care workforce at their skill level.

Created in 2001, WBI helps these professionals get licensed and credentialed

in the United States by providing them with orientation and pathways to the education and professional English language training they need to successfully rejoin the health care field.

The Welcome Back Centers have worked with more than 11,000 foreign-trained nurses, physicians, dentists, social workers, and other professionals, with more than 2,400 of them to date having successfully validated their credentials.

Through partnerships with community colleges, community organizations, and local governments, the WBI model has been replicated from the lead site at San Francisco State University and City College of San Francisco to eight centers throughout the country in Boston, Denver, New York, Providence (RI), San Diego, San Antonio (TX), the Seattle area, and suburban Washington, DC.

By leveraging the training, experience, and language skills of immigrant health care professionals, WBI helps them to move from low-skilled work to high-demand jobs in a health care profession that already is experiencing labor shortages and will face new demand as the U.S. population continues to age.

For more on Welcome Back Initiative visit:
www.welcomebackinitiative.org/wb/





Marriott International, Inc.

M. Andy Chaves, Corporate Senior Manager

Marriott International's Global Language Learning initiative takes advantage of readily accessible technologies and instructional programs to make language learning available to its U.S. workforce, from employees in entry-level positions to its managerial ranks.

More than 10 percent of Marriott's 106,000 associates in the United States (who hail from dozens of nations and speak more than 50 languages) have taken advantage of company-sponsored language programs — from immigrant employees who learn the English skills they need in the workplace and their daily lives to Marriott managers who need to communicate with foreign-language speaking staff and guests.



Through the *Sed de Saber*™ (Spanish for “Thirst for Knowledge”) program that Marriott piloted in 2006, employees who are learning English can access portable electronic learning devices that allow them to learn at their own pace, whenever and wherever it is convenient for them. Employees are permitted to bring the electronic language learning devices home with them, which allows family members to share in the benefits of instruction.

Marriott also provides language learning programs in more than 30 languages to managers and other employees. Marriott's blended instruction approach includes providing workplace resources such as small learning communities and language coaches in each hotel, plus translation pocket guides and language posters to encourage language appreciation at work.

The Marriott program provides a model for how employers can support language learning on a large scale without taking on the roles of an education institution, such as hiring teachers, developing curricula, and organizing traditional classroom instruction.



For more on Marriott International, Inc. visit:
www.marriott.com/marriott/aboutmarriott.mi



We offer deep thanks to the experts in program evaluation and/or in immigrant integration and its various subfields who served on our Advisory Board:

Angelo Amador, Vice President, Labor and Workforce Policy, National Restaurant Association

Lina Avidan, Program Executive, Zellerbach Family Foundation

Solomon Belette, Executive Director, Catholic Charities of the East Bay

Christine Thurlow Brenner, Associate Professor of Public Policy and Administration and Director of Urban Studies, Rutgers University

Ajay Chaudry, Director, Center on Labor, Human Services and Population, Urban Institute

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Peter W. Davidson, Chairman of the Board, J.M. Kaplan Fund

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Phyllis Eisen, President, The Eisen Group: A Business Approach to Workforce Solutions

Eugene García, Vice President for Education Partnerships, Arizona State University

Lourdes Gouveia, Professor of Sociology and Director of the Office of Latino/Latin American Studies of the Great Plains, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Ngoan Le, Vice President of Programs, Chicago Community Trust

Lavinia Limón, President, US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants

Suzette Brooks Masters, Program Specialist, Migrations Program, J.M. Kaplan Fund

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Audrey Singer, Senior Fellow, Metropolitan Policy Program, Brookings Institution

Sheri Steisel, Federal Affairs Counsel; Senior Director, Human Services and Welfare Committee; and Director, Human Services Policy, National Conference of State Legislatures

Andrew White, Director, Center for New York City Affairs, The New School

Heide Wrigley, Senior Researcher, LiteracyWork International



2010 Winners



Illinois New Americans Integration Initiative – Illinois: A partnership between the Illinois Department of Human Services and the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, the New Americans initiative operates a set of programs ranging from citizenship acquisition to vocational English training and ensures access to government services for Limited English Proficient (LEP) customers.

www.integrationawards.org/winners-illinois.cfm



Latino Community Credit Union – Durham, NC: LCCU is a member-owned nonprofit financial institution that offers bilingual financial services and financial education to the immigrant community and other unbanked consumers typically overlooked by financial institutions.

www.integrationawards.org/winners-lccu.cfm



TACOMA
COMMUNITYHOUSE
CREATING OPPORTUNITIES SINCE 1912

Tacoma Community House – Tacoma, WA: Founded as a settlement house a century ago, Tacoma Community House works with immigrants and refugees from over 80 countries, providing adult English instruction, workforce training, citizenship classes, GED preparation, and more.

www.integrationawards.org/winners-TCH.cfm



Upwardly Global

Upwardly Global – New York: The nonprofit, with offices in New York, San Francisco, and Chicago, provides job readiness training, career counseling, placement services, and mentoring to skilled immigrants and refugees, helping them overcome credentialing and other barriers to full professional achievement at their skill level.

www.integrationawards.org/winners-upwardlyglobal.cfm

2010 Honorable Mention



McDonald's Corporation, English Under the Arches – This innovative work-based English curriculum provides shift managers with the language skills they need to manage restaurant operations and staff, helping immigrant workers gain on-the-job knowledge, skills, and confidence.

www.integrationawards.org/honorablemention2010.cfm



2009 Winners



AVANCE – Texas: AVANCE helps young Latino families break the cycle of poverty through programs in early childhood education, family literacy, parenting, adult literacy, and healthy marriages.

www.integrationawards.org/winners-avance.cfm



City of Littleton Immigrant Integration Initiative – Littleton, Colorado: A bridge-building initiative created by civic and government leaders to connect native-born residents, city agencies, and new immigrants and their children who settle in the city.

www.integrationawards.org/winners-littleton.cfm



Internationals Network – New York and California: An innovative network of high schools that has an extraordinary record of successfully preparing recently arrived immigrant English language learners for college and career.

www.integrationawards.org/winners-inps.cfm



Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition's Welcoming Tennessee Initiative – Nashville: A proactive communications and public education campaign that addresses the need for informed and constructive public dialogue about immigration and its impacts in the state of Tennessee and its local communities.

www.integrationawards.org/winners-tirrc.cfm

2009 Finalists

Latino Community Credit Union – Durham, North Carolina: A model, member-owned community banking program that builds the financial literacy skills of the local immigrant community and provides needed banking and related financial services.

www.integrationawards.org/finalists-2009.cfm

Queens Library – Jamaica, New York: A public library in one of the most ethnically diverse counties in the United States which has systematically adapted its planning and programs to facilitate use of library services by immigrants and their children in order to build literacy and life skills.

www.integrationawards.org/finalists-2009.cfm



Launched in 2007, MPI's National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy is a crossroads for policymakers, state and local agency managers, local service providers, journalists, and others seeking to respond to the challenges and opportunities today's high rates of immigration create in local communities.

The Center exists to:

- ***Focus needed attention.*** We work to bring often-overlooked issues of immigrant integration to the fore of national and local debates, promoting constructive solutions that will build stronger, more cohesive, and more successful communities.
- ***Set the record straight.*** We provide an unbiased look at the needs, costs, and contributions of immigrants and provide a balanced analysis of the integration policy options facing local communities and our nation.
- ***Organize and strengthen a nascent field.*** Groups and individuals tackling integration issues often work in isolation, unable to leverage their expertise and energy into more systemic outcomes. We connect them to one another, inform and nurture their efforts, and promote the entry of new actors into integration policy and its various subfields.
- ***Identify and promote effective policies and practices.*** The need for expertise has only grown with migration to “new destination” states, the continuing debate over illegal immigration, and increasingly urgent concerns about the competitiveness of US workers and products in a globalized economy. We provide the research, data, and ideas that add value to stakeholders' own efforts and guide them toward effective policies and practices.

The Center's current areas of focus include: adult education and English instruction; preK-12 education; workforce preparation; citizenship and civic engagement; health; public benefits use; state and local immigration law enforcement; and translation and interpretation policy and program efforts.

For more on the National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy and its online resources, research, and other efforts visit:

www.migrationpolicy.org/integration

DEMETRIOS G. PAPADEMETRIOU, President
MICHAEL FIX, Senior Vice President and Director of Studies,
Co-Director, National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy
MARGIE MCHUGH, Co-Director, National Center on
Immigrant Integration Policy
MONICA ARCIGA, Policy Analyst/Program Coordinator

www.integrationawards.org

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