



News Release

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SBA's 2008 Small Business Awards Announced!

Detroit, Michigan – The **U.S. Small Business Administration** has announced its **2008 Michigan Small Business Person of the Year** and champion awards. They will be presented on April 24, 2008 during the fourth annual **Michigan Celebrates Small Business** awards dinner in East Lansing. **Governor Jennifer Granholm** will be the keynote speaker at the premier event in Michigan to recognize the impact of small business and its critical importance to the state's economy. For more information and to register to attend this black tie optional event, go to www.michigancelebrates.biz.

Richard Temkin, SBA Michigan District Director said, "Michigan's entrepreneurs and small businesses are becoming increasingly vital contributors to our economy. **I am very proud that our Michigan Young Entrepreneurs of the Year have gone on to win SBA's Midwest regional award. This is the second year in a row that Michigan has had the Midwest winner in this category.**"

Stephen Lowisz, Michigan's Small Business Person of the Year, is in contention for the national award, which will be announced during National Small Business Week, April 21-25." The award winners for Michigan are:

Michigan Small Business Person of the Year

Stephen A. Lowisz
President & CEO
Qualigence, Inc., Livonia

Michigan and Midwest Region Young Entrepreneurs of the Year

Ryan Gregg and Rishi Narayan
Owners
Underground Printing, Ann Arbor

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Michigan Jeffrey Butland Family-Owned Small Business of the Year

Robert Roth
President & CEO
RoMan Manufacturing, Inc., Grand Rapids

Michigan Financial Services Champion of the Year

Michael A. Semanco
President & COO
Hennessey Capital, LLC, Huntington Woods

Michigan Minority Business Champion of the Year

Raymond Lozano
Executive Director
Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Southfield

Michigan SBDC Service Excellence & Innovation Center Award

Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center Region 5 Team
University Center

Michigan Small Business Counselor of the Year

James Rowley
Counselor
Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center Region 5, University Center

For more information on the award winners, please contact the SBA Michigan District Office at (313) 226-6075 x225 or e-mail annette.hall@sba.gov. For more information on this event, please go to www.michigancelebrates.biz. Media note: Most photos of winners are available from SBA upon request.

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