Top Philanthropists Announced for 36th Annual National Philanthropy Day Orange County

Orange County’s top philanthropists, business leaders and individuals will be honored at the 36th annual National Philanthropy Day Awards Program and Celebration, on Wednesday, November 17, 2021.

Networking: 10:30 - 11:30a.m  
National Philanthropy Day Awards Luncheon: 11:30a.m - 1:30p.m.  
At City National Grove of Anaheim

Produced by the Orange County Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, National Philanthropy Day has become the most prominent philanthropic recognition event in Orange County, with more than 1,000 honorees since its inception in 1986. Orange County Business Journal is the presenting Sponsor, PBS SoCal | KCET is the Broadcast Media Sponsor and the Orange County Register is the Community Media Sponsor.

To purchase tickets to the event or learn more about sponsorship opportunities, please visit www.npdoc.org.

2021 National Philanthropy Day Orange County Outstanding Honorees

Outstanding Philanthropist | Sun Family Foundation

David and Diana Sun immigrated to America from Taiwan in 1977, where they settled in Orange County to pursue a new life with greater opportunity. In 1987, David co-founded Kingston Technology, which became the world’s largest independent manufacturer of computer memory products. In 1999, David and Diana founded the Sun Family Foundation with the vision of sharing their good fortune with local communities in efforts to help underprivileged students attain higher education and support the underserved. Each year the foundation grants thousands of scholarships to students in both Orange County and Taiwan and continues to provide services to under-served individuals and communities.

Outstanding Founder | Meymuna Hussein-Cattan/The Tiyya Foundation

Born in an Ethiopian refugee camp in Somalia, Meymuna Hussein-Cattan is an executive, entrepreneur and world traveler. For the last decade, Meymuna has been the Founder/Executive Director of The Tiyya Foundation, a local nonprofit that provides economic and educational opportunities for families of refugees, immigrants, and indigenous communities residing in Orange County and Los Angeles County. Her solutions-oriented mindset has led the way on record-breaking initiatives, including the creation of innovative programs and services that impact nearly 1,000 people a year. This includes increases in job creation, entrepreneurship opportunities and recreational sports inclusion for children from low-income immigrant households.

Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser | Eileen Padberg

Eileen Padberg, through Eileen Padberg Consulting, has managed public affairs and political campaigns for some of the nation’s top corporations for more than 25 years. She has been recognized for her work with women as a community activist by encouraging them as elected officials and providing training programs to do so. Her volunteer work with what was then South County YWCA, now called WISEPlace, began in 1984, when she realized what an impact the nonprofit was making in helping home-less women. Volunteering to head the capital campaign to raise funds to build permanent housing to replace transitional housing, Eileen has been instrumental in raising $1.5M in two years.

Outstanding Philanthropic Group | WISE (Women Investing in Security and Education)

The mission of WISE®, Women Investing in Security and Education, is to provide opportunities and expertise for the financial education of females of all ages to (1) acquire skills, tools and the mindset to improve their financial status and increase their options in life; (2) network with others with similar financial needs and goals; and (3) secure financial freedom. Today, WISE works closely with community organizations such as Girl Scouts, Girls Inc. and prominent universities to deliver its core mission. It hosts 5-10 “Tearing Down the Pink Wall” events annually with free online seminars and workshops to teach basic finances to more sophisticated money management.
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Outstanding Corporation or Business, Mid-Size (51-499 employees) | Discount Tire & Service Centers

Discount Tire Centers was founded by Andy Andonian in 1975, when Andy acquired his first tire store in Downey, California. Through hard work and dedication, Andy soon acquired multiple locations spanning more than four states. The 135 locations were managed through the efforts of Andy and his two brothers. Today, Discount Tire Centers is run by President Sergio Andonian, son of Andy Andonian. The company remains determined to give back and continues to dedicate much of its efforts to supporting the local and surrounding communities. Discount Tire Centers’ philanthropic efforts remain at the heart of the company’s philosophy.

Outstanding Corporation or Business, Large (500+ employees) | Banc of California

For 80 years, Banc of California has served small and medium-size businesses throughout Southern California. Headquartered in Santa Ana, the bank has 600+ employees, 36 offices and 32 full-service community banking branches across the region. As California’s business bank, Banc of California is committed to supporting organizations and initiatives that enhance the communities where their customers and employees live and work. The bank has a proven track record of donating dollars, time and resources to causes that align with its mission of empowering Californians—specifically focusing on at-risk youth programming, affordable housing, veteran services, community revitalization, financial education, and workforce development.

Outstanding Corporation or Business, Small (1-50 employees) | Moxie Marketing Agency

Launched in 2014 in Irvine, Moxie Marketing Agency’s core values are integrity, creativity, delivering value, initiative, and giving back. Through its marketing professionals, it operates its Digital Marketing Academy for Nonprofits to provide free marketing resources to nonprofits that cannot afford the company’s services. During the pandemic, the company provided pro bono services to its nonprofit clients and hosted virtual fundraising events to support Orange County’s pandemic relief efforts. This year, Moxie Marketing joined Mental Health Action Day as a founding partner to not only increase awareness about mental health but to encourage people to take action.

Outstanding Youth | Saachi Pavani

Seventeen-year-old Saachi Pavani is a senior at Irvine’s Portola High School, where she captains the girls varsity tennis team. Her nonprofit work began in 2016, when she partnered with Days for Girls International to create hygiene kits for girls in developing countries. Laura’s House inspired her to establish Portola’s Domestic Violence Prevention club, saw her campaign for masks, food and money for the Southern California Hospice Foundation during the pandemic and coordinate distribution of 16,000 masks to OC nonprofits. Together with her work with Stop the Bleed and Girl Scouts of Orange County, she was named to OC Register’s 2020 100 Most Influential People in Orange County.