INDIANAPOLIS – Mayor Greg Ballard today hosted the 10th Annual Mayor’s Celebration of Diversity Awards honoring businesses and organizations for their contributions to diversity and declared today, Jan. 21, 2011, “Diversity Day in the City of Indianapolis.” The Mayor’s Celebration of Diversity Awards recognizes local businesses that encourage, embrace, and celebrate differences that foster a culture of diversity and inclusiveness.

“During the past three years, we have worked together to broaden our concept of diversity to include ethnic and cultural definitions, as well as veterans and individuals with disabilities, and we continue our efforts today and moving forward. We do this because it is important that our workforce reflects the rich diversity and talent found in our neighborhoods,” said Mayor Ballard. “Our workforce is one of our greatest assets as a city, and investing in it in this way is one the smartest things we can do to make Indianapolis a city of economic opportunity for all residents and businesses.”

Recognition for the Mayor’s Celebration of Diversity Awards is based on stellar performance in one or all of the following four areas: Workforce Diversity, Development, Community Relations, and Leadership. Below is a list of the award recipients and a brief description of their accomplishments.

**Development in Diversity Award**
This award is presented to a company or organization that excels in providing opportunities for diversity education and communication within the organization.

- **Award Recipient: Brightpoint, Inc.**
  Brightpoint, Inc. has designed a diversity training program that is both successful and effective requiring all employee attendance. The diversity training program includes a variety of thought-provoking case studies, exercises on cultural sensitivity, personal enrichment assessments and communication best practices. The training program provides each employee with a tool kit of information that assists with team building, networking, mentoring, strengthening relationships, and career development.

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Community Relations Award
This award is presented to a company or organization that excels in promoting activities that encourage and support diversity in the community.

- **Award Recipient: M&I Bank**
M&I entered the Indiana market through a merger with First Indiana Bank in 2008. First Indiana had been an important member of the community since 1915. M&I’s commitment to the community fit well with the legacy of First Indiana, and after the merger, the Indiana region doubled its charitable contributions. Among its many community involvement endeavors, M&I has provided significant support through both volunteer and financial commitments to the Indiana Neighborhood Housing Partnership (INHP). In 2007, M&I initiated the “Living the Dream” program through which employees “adopt” families who have completed the INHP program and give their new homes a major facelifts with painting, landscaping, and furniture. The “Living the Dream” program has become an important part of INHP’s service to families and is now also being supported by other INHP partners.

Leadership in Diversity Award
This award is presented to a company or organization that excels in implementing a vision that supports diversity strategies throughout the organization.

- **Award Recipient: Shrewsberry & Associates, LLC**
Shrewsberry & Associates, LLC was founded in 2001 by Bill Shrewsberry and is a Disadvantaged-, Minority-Business Enterprise (DBE/MBE) engineering and environmental consulting firm. Shrewsberry & Associates provides quality engineering and construction services and recruits, trains, and mentors a diverse group of professionals. At Shrewsberry & Associates, the development of a diverse and multicultural management team is the direct result of the recruitment and retention of a diverse and multicultural workforce. The firm’s commitment to diversity is visible in starting from its senior managers and principals. Shrewsberry’s decision-makers come from a wide range of backgrounds. Their diverse expertise and work experience foster creativity, which helps to further the firm’s performance.

Workforce Diversity Award
This award is presented to a company or organization that has made great strides in the diversity representation in the workplace.

- **Award Recipient: Lewis Wagner, LLP**
Since its inception in 1955 Lewis Wagner, LLP has been committed to diversity, a concept and practice that is integral to the firm’s culture. Recognized with many accolades, its efforts were recognized in 2010 when they became the first Indiana law firm to receive the Law Firm Diversity Award from the Defense Research Institute. Lewis Wagner was selected for this award for demonstrating a commitment to diversity as evidenced by a formal diversity plan committed to achievement, sensitivity and receptivity of diversity issues, and the promotion of its minority and women lawyers.
**Sam H. Jones Award**
This special award, which represents the “Best of the Best,” is named in honor of the first president of the Indianapolis Urban League, a tireless advocate for peace, justice, and understanding in Indianapolis. This is the top award given and recognizes a business or organization with the strongest performance in all four categories.

- **Award Recipient: Parsons Brinckerhoff**
Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB) first opened its doors in Indianapolis in 1997 and has been providing strategic consulting, planning, engineering, program and construction management, and operations and maintenance services to both public- and private-sector clients. As an internal working environment, PB is a culture that values every individual’s background and its commitment to exemplifying diversity and inclusiveness begins with its core values. Its employees annually participate and impact the community through involvement in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure and through fundraising efforts to benefit United Way of Central Indiana. To accomplish its goal of expanding employment opportunities for women, minorities, the disabled, and veterans, PB consistently works on outreach opportunities to attract diverse candidates. Employees have the opportunity to make meaningful contributions to their workplace, from mentoring programs to internal diversity training programs that create a respectful, inclusive environment.

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