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MANY VOICES
ONE COMMUNITY

IAA



2015 • IES Remembered

Saturday, November 21, 2015

FFA Enrichment Center

Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC)

Ankeny Campus





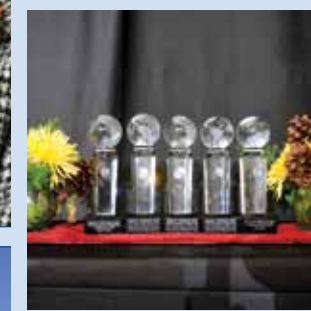
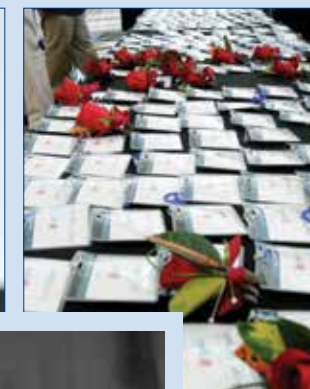
We just wanted to reach out and say thank you for inviting us to the Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit. We appreciated the opportunity to learn some valuable information in the classrooms and it was overwhelming to see so many people interested in starting and growing small businesses.

Thank you for working as hard as you do to put together such a huge event and foster the growth of small businesses in Iowa!

– PLVTO Pros

I am on the planning committee for the Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit. I have also been a speaker, hosted an exhibit table, and been a judge on “Underwriting Exposed!”. Every year, I meet Iowans who are passionate about their small business, about sharing their own entrepreneurial journey, and about contributing to our state. Being a part of IES helps my business centered non-profit reach out to potential clients. On a personal level, attending IES helps me stay energized and mission focused.

– Amelia Lobo
Director, Credit + Lending
Iowa Center for Economic Success





A Letter from IES Planning Committee

The IES planning committee obtained the following data from the service providers and IES sponsors, showing the impact of IES since 2014:

- As of November 21, 2015, there were 160 new companies formed in Iowa by IES attendees. Both Governor Branstad and Lt. Governor Reynolds signed the Congratulations Certificates for each of these companies.
- Over the past seven years, IES has helped the Summit participants create more than 872 new businesses.



Dear IES Sponsors, Supporters and Participants,

The 2015 Eighth Annual Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit was a major success despite the horrendous weather conditions the day prior! We had over 615 participants from 41 different countries of origin and celebrated the birth of 160 new companies since our last event in November of 2014! Each year, the IES is ecstatic to watch our previous attendees utilize the resources we provide at the seminars in order to become proud, new business owners in the state of Iowa!

Anyone who has been to IES quickly understands the Summit has grown to become a very intricate part of the entrepreneur fabric in Iowa and dear to everyone's heart. From the heartfelt speech by Lt. Governor during the opening ceremony to inspiring and touching personal stories of the award honoree during the luncheon, and the educational and exciting, "Underwriting Exposed Competition", the word "togetherness" of the IES mantra comes to life.

Words cannot express how grateful we are for our sponsors and supporters! This year IES' success is the direct result of your commitment and investment. Your support allows attendees to be hope-filled and motivated to become great business leaders and active contributors to the well-being of our community – so thank you!

To our IES attendees of 2015, we want to thank you for your participation and hope you had a great time. We want you to know your willingness to learn and get connected with seasoned entrepreneurs will make your dream of entrepreneurship a step closer to reality. Our hope and mission is for others to see you succeed and dare to dream as you have dreamt. We wish you the best. We are cheering you on.

Dear IES volunteers, words do not fully capture our deepest gratitude to you. From planning in January to the very end of the event when we take down the last banner, you worked tirelessly and selflessly. We have received so many compliments from IES attendees this year about the flawless organization that resulted from your undivided attention to every detail of your assigned role that day. We look forward to working with you again next year to help make the 2016 Ninth Annual IES another big success on Saturday, November 19th, 2016.

We would like you to know the planning team has already began preparation for next year's events. IES is expanding again into different cities of Iowa – Iowa City (January 19), Cedar Falls (April 19), Davenport (July 19), Ottumwa (September 20), and Ankeny (November 19)! We are excited to come see you at your home cities!

Let us grow together!

IES Planning Committee



2015 IES Annual Award Honorees

From left:
Kate Moreland, Sylvia Chelimo, Governor Branstad, Suku Radia, Nancy Bird, and Lupe Vazquez

- **Immigrant Entrepreneurs Leadership Award:**
Sylvia Chelimo
- **Outstanding Immigrant Business Award:**
North Construction and Guadalajara Restaurant
- **Karen Evans Immigrant Champion Award:**
Iowa City Area Development Group and Iowa City Downtown District
- **Immigrant Spirit Award:**
Suku Radia

The Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit embodies so much of what makes Iowa a great place to live and do business. Each year, I am inspired by the organization's ability to bring immigrant led businesses together to share, learn and celebrate with one another. The immigrant community enriches our state in so many ways and the Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit's dedication to these individuals' success is truly invaluable.

– Suku Radia
2015 IES Spirit Award Recipient
CEO and President
Bankers Trust





ASIA

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| China | India | Iraq |
| Israel | Japan | Laos |
| Malaysia | Myanmar | Philippines |
| Singapore | South Korea | Syria |
| Thailand | Vietnam | |

AFRICA

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| Democratic Republic of the Congo | | |
| Nigeria | Sudan | Somalia |
| Uganda | | |

AMERICA

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| Argentina | Bahamas | Brazil |
| Canada | Chile | Columbia |
| Costa Rica | Ecuador | Guatemala |
| Mexico | Puerto Rico | Uruguay |
| USA | Venezuela | |

EUROPE

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| Bosnia | Czech Republic | |
| Germany | Italy | Russia |
| United Kingdom | | |

OCEANIA

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| Australia | New Zealand |
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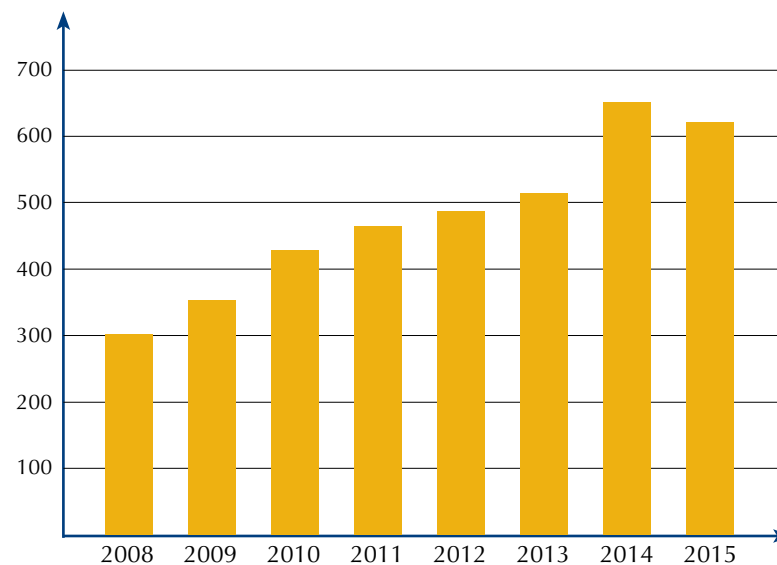


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The Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit has become part of the entrepreneur fabric in Iowa. There is a movement taking place in the State to attract and facilitate business expansion with immigrants and minorities. IES is a perfect place for people to learn, network, and celebrate together. Wells Fargo is proud to be a part of this movement and the impact that IES has on our community.

– Shane W. Zimmerman
Banking President for
Iowa/Western Illinois
Wells Fargo

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IES participants from 2008 to 2015



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"I have always been a dreamer, calculated risk-taker and determined about building a brighter future for myself and others around me. We wanted to establish 4axiz USA as a successful multinational company that develops tailor made mobile and software applications focusing on higher educational institutions, but did not know how could we scale our products and get the best use of our resources. Ever since I came to the US in 2011, through the resources at UNI, John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial center, IES networking, winning the Underwriting Exposed Competition and dedication to my own American dream, these goals have never felt more attainable.

I would like to thank all of the Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit organizers, and sponsors for organizing this wonderful event. My special thanks go to Wells Fargo Bank for sponsoring the Underwriting Exposed business competition. The summit was well organized and engaging. I was impressed with great networking opportunities, and all the speakers that shared their message as leaders in business. I would definitely encourage all the immigrant entrepreneurs to attend this event who are looking to pursue their own business and have a memorable experience."

– 2015 IES Underwriting Exposed Competition Winner
Russel Karim, President of
4Axiz IT Solutions USA LLC

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2015 Underwriting Exposed Competition Finalists

Congratulations to all the 2015 finalists

From left: Bruno Rosas, Tar Macias, and Russel Karim



Many thanks to our speakers!



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If you are an entrepreneur who is just starting a business, or thinking about starting one, the IES annual conference is an event that you must attend each year.

With over 600 attendees annually, great speakers, an exhibit area, workshops and unlimited networking opportunities, it is an event that will invigorate and propel you and your business to new heights.

The GQCHCC is proud of our relationship with IES and we look forward to future partnership opportunities.

Lee Vasquez
Executive Director
Greater Quad Cities Hispanic Chamber
of Commerce

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Wells Fargo is proud to sponsor the Immigrant Entrepreneur Summit.

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Together we'll go far



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