

THE NINTH ANNUAL Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit

IES Remembered

2016



Saturday, November 19, 2016

FFA Enrichment Center
Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC)
Ankeny Campus
1055 SW Prairie Trail Parkway, Ankeny, IA 50023





A Letter from IES Planning Committee

Dear IES Sponsors, Supporters, Participants and Volunteers,

You were all part of the best Summit yet at the 2016 Ninth Annual Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit as we have recorded over 716 participants from 49 different countries of origin and celebrated the birth of 140 new companies since our last event in November of 2015. Each year, as organizers of the event, we hope our attendees, comprised of more immigrants to entrepreneurship, utilize the educational resources we provide at the seminars in order to become proud, successful new business owners in the great 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. From the speech by Lt. Governor during the opening ceremony to inspirational personal stories of the award honorees during the luncheon, and the exciting pitch contest such as, "Underwriting Exposed Competition", the word "togetherness" of the IES mantra comes to life.

On behalf of the IES Board and IES Planning Committee, we want to extend our sincerest gratitude to our sponsors and supporters! This year IES' success could not be possible without your commitment and investment. Your continued support allows IES participants to have all the right tools and resources to become great business leaders and active contributors to the well-being of our community and state economy – so thank you!

To our IES attendees of 2016, we want to thank you for your participation and hope you had a great time. We want you to commend you for your willingness to learn and get connected with seasoned entrepreneurs at the Summit. This alone will make your American Dream in the United States a step closer to reality. Our hope and mission is for others to see you become a role model for others to dare to dream as you have dreamt. We wish you the best. We are cheering you on.

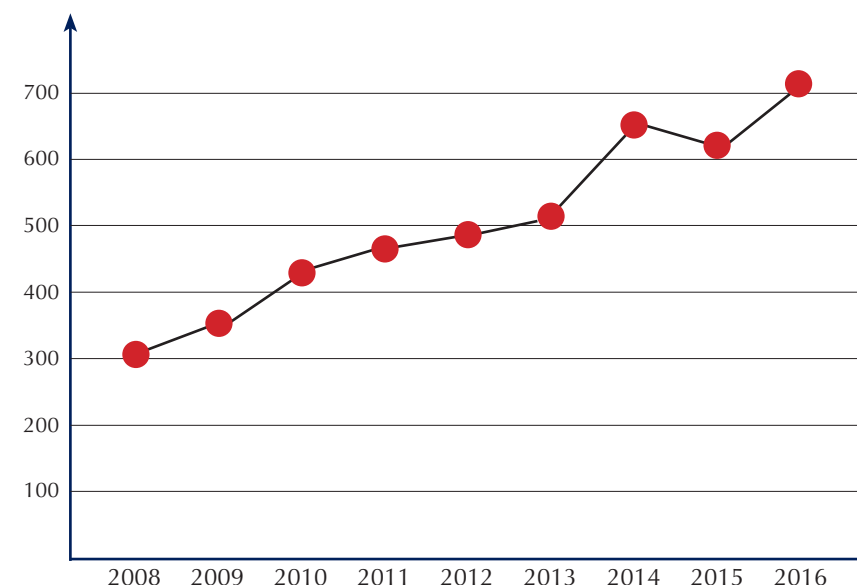
Dear IES volunteers, thank you. You have allowed organization to reach a new level of success. From planning in January to the very end of the event when we collect the last name badge, you worked tirelessly and with grace. We have received so many compliments from IES attendees this year about how complete the event was than any prior Summits. It is all thanks to your efforts to stay on top of your assigned roles. We look forward to working with you again next year to help make the 2016 Tenth Annual IES another big success on Saturday, November 18th, 2017.

We would like you all to know that the IES Board and IES Planning Committee has already began preparation for next year's events. IES is expanding again into different cities of Iowa – Ottumwa (May 23), Davenport (June 6), Cedar Rapids (August 22), Perry (October 17), and Ankeny (November 18)! We are excited to come see you at your home cities!

Let us grow together!

IES Board and IES Planning Committee

716 participants from 49 countries.



IES participants from 2008 to 2016



ASIA

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

AFRICA

Cameroon	Chad	Congo
Democratic Republic of the Congo		
Kenya	Liberia	Nigeria
Senegal	Somalia	Sudan
Uganda	Zimbabwe	

AMERICA

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

EUROPE

Bosnia	Croatia	Czech Republic
Germany	Italy	Norway
Russia	Serbia	Spain
Ukraine	United Kingdom	

OCEANIA

Australia	New Zealand
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This was my first year attending the IES event and I felt extremely fortunate to be able to do so. There is a strong, vibrant, motivated immigrant-inspired community throughout the state of Iowa and from what I learned, it keeps growing. It was inspiring to see many different award recipients share their stories about how Iowa has encouraged them to work hard towards their dreams in education, entrepreneurship and other industries. This is a state that is friendly towards immigrants and it's evident in the testimonies from business owners, educators and other leaders within our cities.

Steffi S. Lee
Multimedia Journalist
KGAN, KMEG, KTVO, KHQA

I am honored to have been given the opportunity to participate in the Immigrant Entrepreneur Summit in various roles over past five years. I have been an exhibitor, a moderator for the break-out sessions, a speaker for the break-out sessions, and most recently had the opportunity to judge 'Underwriting Exposed.' I have seen IES grow by leaps and bounds over the years. Every year the attendees are excited to share their passion for entrepreneurship as well as gain additional knowledge.

I look forward to the 10-year anniversary in 2017!

Michelle Bartusek
Director, Education + Resources
Iowa Center for Economic Success

2016 Underwriting Exposed Competition Finalists

Congratulations to all the 2016 finalists



Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit 2016 offered important tools for business owners to help them take their business to the next level. As the owner of Periódico Conexión Latina and an active member of the Hispanic Community in Iowa, I can say that IES is an event that supports small business entrepreneurs by training them on different business topics. I highly recommend people that have not been part of IES to attend to this yearly event. Empowering - Informative.

Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit 2016 ofreció herramientas importantes para los dueños de negocios para que puedan llevar a su negocio al siguiente nivel. Como dueños de Periódico Conexión Latina y miembro activo de la Comunidad Hispana en Iowa, puedo decir que IES fue un evento que mostró su apoyo incondicional a los pequeños emprendedores capacitándolos en diferentes temas empresariales. Recomendaría a las personas que no han asistido a que sean parte de este evento anual.

Wilfredo Melgar
Winner of 2016 Underwriting Exposed

Company Name:
PeriódicoConexión Latina

For 2017 IES Underwriting Exposed Competition application, please contact (515) 288-3188.





From left: Ying Sa, Sal Alaniz, Governor Branstad, Olga Sparks, MJ Ghazali's mom, MJ Ghazali, and Dr. Liang Chee Wee



2016 IES Annual Award Honorees



The Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit is a great way for students to participate and connect with real people in the community building their business. The sense of community seen at IES every year clearly propels Iowa's economic success. It has been an amazing experience for me to grow professionally and personally. I have met and established long-lasting friendships and hope that will be the case for every individual who participated in the summit.

I would like to thank the planning team for doing a great job this year and all the best for the 10th anniversary in 2017!

Amanda X.H. Khoo
Drake University Business Graduate Student

The Entrepreneurs Immigrant Summit provides a cohesive and engaging conference, building entrepreneur and small business education and initiatives into an overall economic and community development strategy.

Proven methods designed to establish and sustain entrepreneurial development are provided through a series of workshops, and as facilitated by business leaders in critical skills-building fields.

And IES's growth in active participation and attendance continues to provide an excellent resource for networking with entrepreneurial and small business owners and mentors. These networking relationships have been invaluable in growing, sustaining and being innovative in our business.

We look forward to 2017 IES's 10th Anniversary Summit!

Sal Alaniz
2016 Karen L. Evans Immigrant Champion Award Honoree

For 2017 IES Award nomination information, please contact (515) 288-3188.

Immigrant Entrepreneurs Leadership Award

Dr. Liang Chee Wee

Outstanding Immigrant Business Award

Ghazali's & Open Sesame

Karen Evans Immigrant Champion Award

Sal Alaniz

Immigrant Spirit Award

Olga Sparks



Many thanks to our speakers!



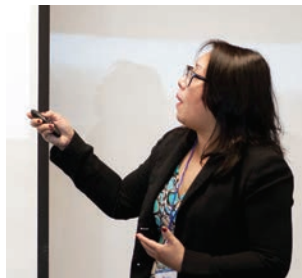
The Immigrant Entrepreneurial Summit is an inspirational event that celebrates business successes and workshops to learn from the best. This year's program provided a great deal of hope for participants and our communities. I encourage anyone that is an immigrant business owner or advocate to attend next year.

Shane Zimmerman
Area Business Banking President
Iowa/Western Illinois Wells Fargo



Each year I present at numerous conferences around the country but my favorite is always IES! It is energizing to see so many people from around the world who call Iowa home and who have the dream of starting their own business. It is humbling to be able to help these individuals achieve their American dream. Everything about IES is perfectly executed. Each session is facilitated by experts in their fields and each topic is directly related to helping individuals start or grow their business. In one day, under one roof, an individual can gain all the knowledge needed, and make all the contacts necessary, to start their business. Everyone who attends IES can leave with a network of professionals who will help them along the path of business ownership and success. No other conference does this!

Gregg Johnson
Distinguished Professor of Business, Iowa
Western Community College



Great leaders inspire our communities



In every community, there are people who can inspire others to work for positive change. True leaders know how to forge a consensus and create a lasting legacy of success.

Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit, it's an honor to recognize you.

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Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit (IES)

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