

11.20.21



IES REMEMBERED

The 14th Annual National
Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit

FFA Enrichment Center • DMACC, Ankeny Campus



A Letter from IES Planning Team



Dear IES sponsors, supporters, participants, and volunteers,

Thank you to those who were able to come out this year to participate at IES! We were so excited to see everyone once again and resume an in-person conference.

These past couple of years has been challenging for many businesses, and those who we work closely with tell us these struggles; we are grateful to be able to provide advice, encouragement, and a space where immigrants and those new to business can come together to share, learn, and grow together.

With the holiday season, I feel thankful for the warmth of community. It is encouraging to see so many people who want our business communities to succeed.

In creating a trusted space, IES is working with you bring down the barriers so many put up in thinking they cannot succeed. We believe the American Dream is for everyone, and IES fosters the supportive and educational environment for these dreams to grow.

We conclude the 2021 IES with one upcoming change we'd like to announce: IES is participating in the **SBA Community Navigators** program. Coming up in 2022, we are hoping to have more resources to help immigrant and minority-owned businesses to thrive even with the on-goings of COVID-19.

IES reflects the contribution of immigrants and their daily lives in this country. The data we have are from business owners who have formed companies as a result of IES. During the past fourteen years, 1,831 new companies were formed with our support!

My sincerest gratitude for your part in pushing IES forward. I hold dear the fact that thrives when it is an active community with diverse talents, passions, and experiences to make this dream happen. I look forward to working with you and achieving more in 2022.

With warm gratitude,

Ying Sa
IES Co-Chair



500 participants from 27 countries



IES has great traction for supporting an important part of the small business ecosystem. Education, networking, and showcasing successful entrepreneurs make this a terrific event!

– Michael Helak
US Bank

My experience at the IES Summit was fantastic. I got to meet new business owners, learn about other businesses, and connect with a lot of great people. Overall I had a great time, I would like to thank Catherine and Community CPA for allowing us to be a part of this great event. I will for sure attend to the next IES summit event!

– Kevin Pham, Boersma Insurance Services

Being invited to speak at the IES was a great honor, and I would do it again in a heartbeat. Elevating Minority entrepreneurs through applied knowledge and education is key to opening the doors of financial freedom.

– Terrence Thames, Cocoa Creative Agency



2021 IES Award Honorees

Immigrant Entrepreneur Leadership Award

Kalyan Venkatraman
Cerebral Group LLC

Outstanding Immigrant Business Award

Min Tun
Golden Land Food Market

Karen L Evans Immigrant Champion Award

Robert Brownell
Polk County Board of Supervisors

Immigrant Spirit Award

Joe Gonzalez
Latino Resources Inc



The role of IES is very crucial for the growth of local businesses and firms owned by ethnic immigrant entrepreneurs, coming from different social and cultural backgrounds. Ensuring to achieve its goals and objectives, IES shares invaluable tips and ideas with the immigrant business owners so they can utilize those tips and ideas for the growth of their businesses and their community.

– Min Tun, Golden Land Food Market

The IES is a positive energy supernova in our state. I am continuously amazed and encouraged, on multiple levels, with the stories I hear of determination, sacrifice, and success from our New Iowan brothers and sisters. Truly, they embody the American Dream.

– Robert Brownell, Polk County Board of Supervisors

IES is a fantastic organization in our community. Keep up your great work. It was an honor and privilege to receive the Immigrant Spirit Award.

– Joe Gonzalez, Latino Resources, Inc.



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The most incredible part of IES is how it facilitates conversations amongst people who may otherwise have no chance to meet or get to know each other. I was gratified to have conversations far beyond my plan in my fundraising session/ presentation and some continue today weeks after the conference. Then the magic of being with the honorees as their stories unfold made the event incredibly worthwhile.

– Tej Dhawan
Plains Angels

The Summit provides perspective and significance of entrepreneurial success, no matter what point of the entrepreneurial journey you are at. Being inspired by success stories, makes you believe that your ideas are possible.

– Yana Stockman
Life Coach

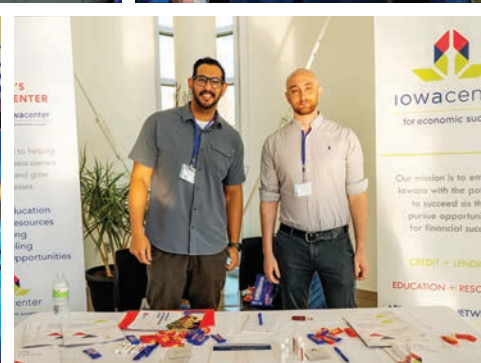
As human being, all immigrants have the ability and creativity to become an entrepreneur. With the support of financial institutions our communities can make money, create self-employment and job opportunities, and contribute to the economy.

– M Alomgir Hossain
Solidarity Microfinance

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IES
Underwriting
Exposed
is back to
give back!



Since the founding of IES in 2008, I consider IES as a vital part of my life in Iowa. It has been very inspirational and it also has provided a great stage for the international and local businesses to learn and build up, is also an excellent opportunity for the youth and students to be prepared for the real business world!

– Swallow Yan
Chinese Association of Iowa

The DMACC Financial Empowerment Center appreciates the opportunity each year to connect with business owners and partners in the community that are passionate about creating economic opportunity and mobility for individuals in Iowa. Thank you for all you do!

– Anna Peña
Financial Empowerment Center

This was my first year attending the IES and I truly enjoyed learning about the immigrant entrepreneurship culture and experiences. Immigrant entrepreneurs have made significant impacts and lasting impressions on our communities. I value the work that is being done and want to continue to see diverse businesses supported, promoted, and growing!

– Kymberly Stevenson
Iowa Economic Development Authority

We listened; the seminar participants were glad we were able to take their questions and answer them.

– Paul Koeniguer
Des Moines SCORE

Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit (IES) thanks you for your generous support!

Executive



Partners



Entrepreneur



Business Advocate



Host

