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Awards honor young leaders

By THE JOURNAL NEWS
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The Business Council of Westchester yesterday named the winners of Rising Star awards that recognize outstanding leaders who are under 40 and work in Westchester County.

This year's winners include individuals from government, education, finance, publishing, information technology and other industries. Anyone between the ages of 21 and 40 who works in Westchester was eligible for the awards patterned after the national business recognition program "Forty Under Forty."

"These young leaders represent the vision and future of Westchester County and its business community and we look forward to pay tribute to them," said Marsha Gordon, president and chief executive office of The Business Council of Westchester.

A steering committee chose the award winners based on professional and/or entrepreneurial accomplishments, leadership qualities and business affiliations.

The awards ceremony will be at 6 p.m. June 8 at MasterCard International in Purchase. Tickets are \$40 per person. For registration or additional information, please contact Pat Nicolais at The Business Council at 914-948-2110 or pnicolais@westchesterny.org.

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The winners are

Anthony Artuso Jr., 32, chief executive officer, Artuso Pastry, Mount Vernon; Noam Bramson, 36, mayor, New Rochelle; Angela Barranco, 26, legislative director, office of Yonkers city council president; Eric Bassin, 30, high school dean of students, Solomon Schechter School of Westchester, Hartsdale; Maja Hazell, 36, assistant dean, career development, Pace University School of Law, White Plains; Aisha Moyla, 28, administrative director, office of the president, Pace University, White Plains; Laura Katen, 32, president, Katen LLC, Mamaroneck; Darrell Belcher, 39, executive chef, New York Hospitality Group, White Plains; Matt Bloom, 38, president/owner, Blooms Restaurant, Yorktown Heights; Jena Butterfield, 31, records editor, Westfair Communications, White Plains.

Kevin Cohen, 36, attorney, White Plains; Suzanne Cortese, 38, vice president of accounting and audit manager, Richard G Baccari & Co., White Plains; Heidi Davidson, 30, vice president, global public policy, MasterCard, Purchase; Anthony DeStefano, 38, partner, Opus Advisory Group LLC, Purchase; Paul Fegan Jr., 32, director of U.K. Services, Clarfeld Financial Advisors, Tarrytown; Christopher Jones, 38, founder and president, Progressive Solutions, White Plains; Nick Liapunov, 37, field representative, Strategies for Wealth Creation & Protection, White Plains; Jonathan DeMarco, 32, vice president, relationship manager, Citibank Commercial Markets Group, Harrison; **Robert Diaz, 32, vice president and managing partner, Mad Science, White Plains;** John Durante, 32, president, Durante Equities, White Plains.

Jason Finkelberg, 35, general manager, WHUD, Peekskill; Michelle Fisher, 35, manager, quality assurance, Consolidated Edison of New York, Rye; Steven Greenbush, 34, first vice president, CB Richard Ellis, Stamford, Conn.; Marie Herrero-Cartularo, 37, senior mortgage consultant, IMC Mortgage Co., White Plains; Alan Kaye, 36, founder/partner, Select Signatures, White Plains; Patricia Kercado, 31, manager, clinical services, OrthoNet, White Plains; Lisette Rodriguez, 36, patient care director, New York Presbyterian Hospital, White Plains; Mike Love, 36, vice president, Coffee Labs Roasters, Tarrytown; John Monreal, 36, vice president of business development, Network Crazy, Harrison; Shawyn Patterson-Howard, 38, branch executive director, YMCA of Central & Northern Westchester, Mount Vernon.

Cathy Pinsky, 38, owner, Pinsky Studio, Hartsdale; Gary Ptak, 37, gemologist/owner, Gary Ptak LLC, Mamaroneck; Craig Ruoff, 37, managing director, Rakow Commercial Realty Group, White Plains; James Schwanderla, 37, White Plains; Eric Siles Sr., 38, vice president, MediaMax Network, Valhalla; Robert Steinberger, 34, corporate planning and business development manager, Fuji Photo Film USA, Valhalla; Dan Sullivan, 38, chief financial officer, Heineken USA, White Plains; Jennifer Taylor, 33, project manager, innovation programs, IBM, Armonk; Scott Thompson, 27, area director, Fitness Together, Yonkers; Daniel Zelazny, 38, physician, University Orthopaedics, Hawthorne.

IBM deal

IBM Corp. yesterday announced an agreement with SAP AG to sell software products from both companies to small and mid-sized businesses. The software is particularly useful in key industries, such as project order management in wholesale distribution, direct store delivery in food and beverage, and regulatory reporting in life sciences.

Kudos

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Ellen J. Yoffa, director of next generation web at IBM's T.J. Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights, will receive the Marie R. Pistilli Women in Electronic Design Automation Achievement Award on July 24. The award recognizes outstanding contributions to the ongoing advancement of women in the electronic design industry.

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