

# Diversity/Careers in Engineering & Information Technology

Technical Workforce and Supplier Diversity

Become a fan on: [facebook](#) Follow us on: [twitter](#)  
Share this on: [facebook](#) Share this on: [twitter](#)

- HOME
- ABOUT
- ADVERTISE**
- SPONSORS
- CAREERS
- SUPPLIER DIVERSITY**
- POST RESUME
- ARCHIVES**
- EVENTS
- SUBSCRIBE
- ALT FORMAT

### CURRENT ISSUE

August/September 2010

### FEATURED ARTICLES



Looking for a job?  
Post your resume here!



### Society News

## 100 Black Men of America recognizes women entrepreneurs

Washington, DC and Baltimore chapter members of the Women Presidents' Organization receive awards

Three women who lead IT firms were among eleven women entrepreneurs of color honored by the Baltimore and Washington, DC chapters of 100 Black Men of America (BMOA, [www.100blackmen.org](http://www.100blackmen.org)) in June. The awards were presented during the Women in Business conference of the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC, [www.wbenc.org](http://www.wbenc.org)).



At the event: Conni Evans, who heads up Ancon in Washington, DC, is at center holding her award, with Marsha Firestone, president and founder of the national WPO, to her left and Ray Lucas, president of 100 Black Men of Maryland, to her right.

All eleven honorees are members of the Washington, DC and Baltimore chapters of the Women Presidents' Organization ([www.womenpresidentsorg.com](http://www.womenpresidentsorg.com)). WPO is a national organization for women owners of companies with million- and often multi-million-dollar revenues. Black Men of America focuses on mentoring black youth and other areas important to the African American community.

#### A new collaboration

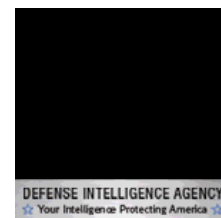
The event was the first collaboration between 100 Black Men and WPO, and Ray Lucas, president of 100 Black Men of Maryland, says it won't be the last. "We hope to make this a yearly event," he told *Diversity/Careers'* editor-in-chief Kate Colborn, who was there covering the event.



Part of the happy crowd from BMOA, WPO and other groups.

Dr Marsha Firestone, president and founder of the national WPO, agreed. "We hope this idea will spread to other areas of the country," she says. She was specially pleased by the partnership with 100 Black Men because "We have always hoped to see more women of color in WPO."

Also attending was Julie Lenzner Kirk, CEO and "chief muse" of the Path Forward Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship



### FEATURES

- ▶ Native Americans
- ▶ Defense contractors
- ▶ Medical technology
- ▶ ChEs & EnvEs
- ▶ Business intelligence
- ▶ PhD Project
- ▶ NACME: Connectivity 2015
- ▶ NJIT Renard scholars

### SUPPLIER DIVERSITY

- ▶ Supplier diversity
- ▶ WBEs find success
- ▶ News & Views
- ▶ 100 Black Men honor WBEs
- ▶ WBENC plans for 2020
- ▶ Regional roundup

### SECTIONS

- ▶ Diversity in action
- ▶ Managing
- ▶ News & Views



DIVERSITY

**SPONSORS**



([www.pathforwardcenter.org](http://www.pathforwardcenter.org)). This newly formed nonprofit supports women entrepreneurs, including some of the honorees. Kirk noted that she hasn't seen many women with technical backgrounds interested in starting their own companies, and she hopes to change that.

**"What they see is what they'll be"**

Ray Lucas reports that the event was the brainchild of local WPO and BMOA chapters. "We wanted to show the black youth we mentor that success has no gender," he declared. "What they see is what they'll be!" is one of BMOA's organization's mentoring mantras.

The women were acknowledged for their commitment to economic empowerment within the community, and their personal success in building their companies. As Firestone points out, "These women demonstrate outstanding leadership qualities, running multi-million-dollar businesses and lending their time to local charities. They are truly role models for young women throughout the country."

**Meet the honorees**

Linda Folsom Jackson is president of InfoAge Solutions (Washington, DC), a full life cycle IT firm. Conni Evans leads Ancon (Washington, DC), which provides information design, security and technology services as well as event management. Rozita Washington is president of Leading Through Change (Largo, MD), an IT and training firm.

Other honorees included Angela Bradley, BTI Security (Silver Spring, MD); Beneak Hargrave, Mahogany Interiors (Washington DC); Jacquanette Lewis, Global Advertising First (Washington, DC); Dr Marlene N. Mahipat, Mediquest (Randallstown, MD); Carolyn Sawyer, Tom Sawyer Co (Washington, DC and Columbia, SC); Deborah Stallings, HR Anew (Columbia, MD); Shelonda Stokes, GreiBO Entertainment (Baltimore, MD); and Annette Smith-Rich, Rich Roofing, LLC (Baltimore, MD).



Awardee Linda Folsom Jackson is president of InfoAge Solutions, a full-lifecycle IT firm based in Washington, DC.



D/C

[Back to Top](#)

**DIVERSITY SPONSORS**



Copyright © 2010 Diversity/Careers. All Rights Reserved. Privacy Statement