

# Soledad O'Brien Highlights the 3rd Annual Philadelphia Diversity & Leadership Conference



*Soledad O'Brien as the keynote speaker at the Philadelphia Diversity & Leadership Conference*

On Thursday, October 18th, the Pennsylvania Diversity Council held its 3rd Annual Diversity & Leadership Conference in Philadelphia at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel. This year's conference was divided into four concurrent sessions consisting of several topics in which the attendees chose to participate. Business professionals from private and public sectors, as well as university officials, were in attendance to gain insight and a wealth of knowledge from the conference participants who focused on the theme "From Awareness to Action."

"Diversity and inclusion proves to be an important issue we face in today's global economy," said Dennis Kennedy, Founder and CEO of National Diversity Council.

"With her professional experience and her advocacy for various groups within our communities, we believed having Soledad O'Brien as the keynote speaker for this conference helped us bring awareness to the need for diverse leadership within the professional community."

The conference began with "The Most Powerful & Influential Women's Breakfast" where 15 women were honored for their accomplishments and contributions to their field of work throughout the scope of their careers. Following the breakfast, the first concurrent panel session began focusing on topics such as, "Aligning Diversity & Inclusion with HR Strategies"; "It's Not the Glass Ceiling, But Rather the Sticky Floor"; "Creating your Diversity Strategy"; and "Mastering the Art of Leadership." These topics – amongst others – were chosen to promote a culture of inclusion.



*Most Powerful & Influential Women*

The Multicultural Awards Luncheon followed the second concurrent session where 9 professionals from various organizations were honored for their leadership characteristics and for their commitment to high ethical standards and professional excellence. These individuals were also honored for a continued effort in promoting diversity and inclusion within the workplace and community.

After the awards luncheon, the keynote speech was delivered by Soledad O'Brien, Acclaimed Special Investigations Correspondent and Host of CNN's In America Documentaries. O'Brien's speech focused on the importance for the need of having diversity and inclusion in the community and workplace. Her insight and experience perfectly accentuated the conference's theme.

The Pennsylvania Diversity Conference would like to thank all of the speakers, sponsors, and attendees for helping make the Pittsburgh Diversity & Leadership Conference a rousing success.