



November 3, 2015

## **Business Executives Honored at the Ohio Diversity and Leadership Conference**

On October 29, 2015, the Ohio Diversity Council hosted their 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Diversity and Leadership Conference at the Sheraton Columbus Hotel in Columbus, Ohio. Attendees of the event gained knowledge and advice from a diverse group of corporate leaders who shared insight from their personal success and leadership experience as professionals.



“This year’s Ohio Diversity and Leadership Conference helped attendees gain knowledge of diversity and inclusion best practices, promoted networking with top business professionals, and recognized individuals for their accomplishments in diversity and leadership,” said Dennis Kennedy, Founder and CEO of the National Diversity Council.

The two-day event brought together top corporate leaders from various organizations who addressed topics focusing on diversity and inclusion, leadership and professional development. The conference began with registration followed by an awards breakfast for the Most Powerful and Influential Women of Ohio. This award recognizes women who have overcome numerous barriers to rise to the top of their organizations.

Following the awards breakfast, concurrent sessions on leadership and professional development were held, leading into the Multicultural Leadership awards luncheon. This award recognizes exemplary men and women who demonstrate leadership excellence while retaining commendable reputation within their industry. In addition, the DiversityFIRST™ award winners were recognized for their dedication in raising awareness for diversity and inclusion along with advocating for civil and human rights.

After lunch, additional concurrent sessions were held ending the first day of the conference. The following morning, conference attendees were allowed to register and attend additional concurrent sessions bringing the event to a close.

The Ohio Diversity Council would like to thank all the sponsors, speakers and attendees for helping to make the event a success.



## Ohio Most Powerful and Influential Women Award Winners

**Philecia Avery**

*Vice President, Pharmacy  
The Kroger Co.*

**Tina Benavides**

*Vice President Cards, Creative Division  
American Greeting Corporation*

**Crystal L. Faulkner, CPA, CExP,  
MAFF**

*Partner & Co-Founder  
Cooney Faulkner & Stevens, LLC*

**Michelle F. Goret**

*Vice President, Corporate  
Communications  
Cintas Corporation*

**Colleen Jay**

*President, Global Beauty Specialty  
Business  
Procter and Gamble*

**Monica S. Verma**

*Partner  
BakerHostetler*

**Kellie Wurtzman**

*Senior Vice President, Stores &  
Operations  
Luxottica Retail North America*

**Connie Bayne, CPCU, CSP**

*President Mid-Atlantic Region, Business  
Insurance  
Liberty Mutual Insurance*

**Mary H. Boosalis**

*Executive Vice President & Chief Operating  
Office  
Premier Health*

**Kathleen Golovan**

*Chief Information Officer  
Medical Mutual*

**Elizabeth A. Kastner**

*Partner & Practice Group Chair, Health &  
Life Sciences Practice Group  
Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP*

**Stella Keane, SPHR**

*Vice President, Talent Management  
Big Lots, Inc.*

**Lorraine Washington, MA, SPHR, SHRM-  
SCP**

*Senior Vice President, Human Resources  
Summa Health*



## Ohio Multicultural Leadership Award Winners

**Nadeem Ali**

*Vice President & Corporate Treasure  
Greif Inc.*

**J. Phillip Holloman**

*President & Chief Operating Officer  
Cintas Corporation*

**Michael S. Lawson, MBA**

*President  
Grant Medical Center*

**Clarence A. Pauley III**

*Senior Vice President & Chief Human  
Resources Officer  
UC Health*

**Nada Aried**

*Vice President, Application Services  
L Brands*

**Marie-Joëlle C. Khouzam**

*Partner  
Bricker & Eckler LLP*

**Pavan Mediratta**

*Vice President, Marketing  
LexisNexis*

## Ohio DiversityFIRST™ Award Winners

**John J. Davis**

*Retail Store Director Executive  
Meijer*

**Kathy Espy**

*Director of Diversity & Community  
Initiatives  
Mount Carmel College of Nursing*

**Kimberly Barrett**

*Vice President, Multicultural Affairs &  
Community Engagement  
Wright State University*

**Marilyn McClure Demers**

*Associate Vice President & Associate  
General Counsel, Corporate &  
Intellectual Property Litigation  
Nationwide*