



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Media Contact:** Maria Lanao, Levy AD, 786-514-0301, [@levyad.com](mailto:@levyad.com)

## **MIAMI BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO HONOR OUTSTANDING BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS AT UPCOMING CHAMPIONS OF BUSINESS AWARDS LUNCHEON**

*This year's award recipients are Aletha Player, William Shockett, and Warren Zinn, as well as the winner of a Warren Henry Auto for the 2012 Small Business of the Year.*

**MIAMI BEACH, FL** (January 2, 2012) —On Wednesday, February 1, 2012, the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce will host the Champions of Business Awards Luncheon, sponsored by Bank United, and continue its tradition of recognizing the accomplishments of outstanding business professionals who help to strengthen the foundation of the community at large.

*Aletha Player, from FPL*, will receive the annual **James McDonnell Outstanding Board of Governor Award** for her years of remarkable dedication to the progress and expansion of the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce. This year's **Past Chair Award** recipient is *William Shockett*, Past Chairman of the Board from '82-'83, given posthumously for his work and commitment to the community throughout his lifetime.

A highlight of the luncheon is the **Aaron B. Perry Innovation in Business Award**, now in its second year, which gives recognition to the achievements and positive contributions of noticeable altruistic business professionals. The award shines light on a successful business person who has been triumphant in helping an industry progress with their innovative ideas and business tactic while maintaining to participate in philanthropic activities throughout the community. This award is being presented this year to *Warren Zinn, Owner of Warren Henry Automobile Group*.

And, in its inaugural year, is the much anticipated **2012 Warren Henry Small Business of the Year Award**. Over the past three months, members of the community have sent in applications in hopes of being selected for the Chamber's newest prestigious award. This award will be given out each year to honor individuals who have dedicated their time to the community while growing their companies to reach outstanding achievements in management and innovation over the past couple of years. The six top finalists have been selected by the Chamber's Chairman's Circle members and the ballots have been sealed and locked in a safe box for the winner to be announced the day of the event. Along with receiving the recognition of their peers, the winner will also receive a 13 month lease on a Warren Henry Automobile and 1 year of complimentary advertising with the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce. The remaining 5 finalists will receive a 72 hour ride in a Warren Henry Jaguar because similar to the Warren Henry motto, all are "best in class".

The six finalists are **Jason Beukema, Whet Travel, Deanne Connolly Graham, Welcome & Bienvenidos Magazine, Sheila Duffy-Lehrman, Tropic Survival, Jeff Greene, 84 West Studios, Bill Hansen, Bill Hansen Catering, and Brian Scheinblum, Cambean Hospitality**.

This year's Champions of Business Award Luncheon will be held at 12:00 pm at the Eden Roc Renaissance Miami Beach, located at 4525 Collins Avenue and the event is open to the public. Tickets are available starting at \$45 for pillar members, \$50 for members and \$60 for guests, with sponsorship opportunities available starting at \$650. Additional presenting sponsors of the event include Best Buy For Business and BDI Construction.

For more information on the Champions of Business Awards Luncheon, please contact Valerie Rasken at 305-695-6833 or via email, [@miamibeachchamber.com](mailto:@miamibeachchamber.com).

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**ABOUT THE MIAMI BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

The Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce was formed in 1921 to promote the economic well-being of Miami Beach's citizens, to improve the quality of life for the entire community, and to communicate the view of the business community on major issues of public policy.