



CITY OF CLEVELAND
Mayor Frank G. Jackson

From: Office of the Mayor

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City of Cleveland Celebrates Small Businesses

Event honors entrepreneurs and their contributions to the City's neighborhoods

CLEVELAND –On May 10, Mayor Frank G. Jackson honored entrepreneurs and small businesses that received financial capital and technical assistance to launch, grow and expand their small businesses in Cleveland since he became mayor in 2006. [View images from the event at Ariel International Center.](#)

Mayor Jackson, who announced his [Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative](#) on May 5, has a focus on creating strong neighborhoods, which includes small businesses.

“All of the businesses present are integral to our local economy,” said Mayor Jackson. “We as a City, through the Department of Economic Development, are committed to supporting them through financial and technical assistance.”

These small businesses have invested private capital, equity, created jobs and made important contributions in their respective neighborhoods. The event included a special recognition & awards ceremony with a reception presented by the City’s Department of Economic Development and Cleveland Citywide Development Corporation.

Award categories included Honorary Female Business Enterprise, Innovative Small Business, Community Impact, Female Business Enterprise, Minority Business Enterprise, Green and Sustainable, Manufacturing Business, and Locally Owned Restaurant and Café. Honorees included notable businesses such as Pierre’s Ice Cream, Bloom Bakery, Marigold Catering, Zack Bruell Restaurant Group and more. [View the full list of winners.](#)

Mayor Jackson also announced a \$25 million Neighborhood Transformation Initiative (NTI) on May 10 and plans to leverage City funds with local banks to bring prosperity to neighborhoods where the traditional investment strategies do not work. Small businesses will play a vital role in the plan.

The NTI continues Mayor Jackson’s work to revitalize neighborhoods and support entrepreneurs. Through the Department of Economic Development, the City has invested \$70 million of City dollars in 439 small business projects since 2006, and

from that leveraged over \$343 million of total investment and impacted more than 10,000 jobs.

For more information on honorees and the City of Cleveland's Economic Development Department, visit www.rethinkcleveland.org.

About the City of Cleveland

The City of Cleveland is committed to improving the quality of life for its residents by strengthening neighborhoods, delivering superior services, embracing diversity and making Cleveland a desirable, safe city in which to live, work, play, and do business. For more information on the City of Cleveland, visit online at www.city.cleveland.oh.us, Twitter at @cityofcleveland or Facebook at www.facebook.com/cityofcleveland

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