

SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION
YASIN "SAL" SALMA, PRESIDENT
JULIE R. BRANDT, DIRECTOR



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
WILLIE L. BROWN, JR., MAYOR

PRESS RELEASE

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San Francisco Small Business Commission Announces Nominees for the *Most Innovative Entrepreneur of the Year* award

Award to be announced at SBC's first Shop Outside the Box campaign to support small business

San Francisco, CA – Thirty-six small business owners in San Francisco are vying for the *Most Innovative Entrepreneur of the Year* award, which will be presented by Mayor Willie L. Brown, Jr. during the San Francisco Small Business Commission's (SBC) first *Shop Outside the Box* celebration. The business owners were selected based on their innovative business idea, dedicated entrepreneurial spirit and their commitment to make and sell their products in San Francisco.

"*The Shop Outside the Box* campaign was designed to promote homegrown entrepreneurs whose products make our City one of the most interesting places to live, work and visit," said Julie Brandt, Director of the San Francisco Small Business Commission. "This campaign is the first celebration in San Francisco of locally owned small businesses and their '*Made in the Bay*' products. We invite the public to come and meet the creative minds behind some of their most treasured purchases," said Brandt.

The selected business owners represent every City district and will display their unique products during the *Shop Outside the Box* celebration from 12-noon to 7 p.m. at Union Square on Friday, December 12. Small businesses in San Francisco account for the majority of all private sector businesses and generate over 50 percent of the City's employment opportunities.

"The *Shop Outside the Box* campaign is a tribute to the more than 100,000 hard working small business owners who are, collectively, the backbone of San Francisco's local economy and help to drive our economic growth and development," said Brandt. "The Small Business Commission designed this campaign to remind residents to honor and support the important contributions of the small business owner."

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The following small businesses have been selected to participate in this year's celebration. The businesses are listed in alphabetical order.

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. April in Paris | Beatrice Amblard | Handmade leather accessories |
| 2. Baby Blossoms | Stacie Jacobs | Organic baby skin care |
| 3. Baby Wit | Andrea Frost | T-shirts for infants & toddlers |
| 4. Booty Boutique | Kyra Brown | Handmade belt buckles |
| 5. Bossalini Clothing, | Gene Steptoe | Urban wear |
| 6. Broughton Woodwork | Ros Broughton | Furniture maker |
| 7. Casalina Specialty Glass | Carolyn Wang | Homemade glassware |
| 8. Classic Hardware | Karyn Cantor | Jewelry design |
| 9. Colleen Quen Couture | Collen Quen | Evening wear |
| 10. Conceptual Metal Works | Dan Greenberg & Karen McKinley | Custom metal design |
| 11. Delirious Shoes | Amy Boe | Handmade shoes |
| 12. Glaser Designs | Myron & Kari Glaser | Travel & leather goods |
| 13. Hutter Images | Keith Hutter | Photography |
| 14. Jeremiah's Pick Coffee Co. | Jules Kragen | Gourmet coffee roaster/wholesaler |
| 15. Kevin Waller | Kevin Waller | Ceramics/pottery |
| 16. Lady Bug Lady Bug, | Lisa Sherratt & Sheila Musgrave | Hand painted silk items |
| 17. Lili Knits Creation | Rita Doyle | Custom-made clothing |
| 18. Lit'l Lazards | Bobbi Williams | Handmade infant & childrenswear |
| 19. Lynn Sondag | Lynn Sondag | Paintings & watercolors |
| 20. Martha Egan | Martha Egan | Clothing designer |
| 21. Meteor Lights | Robert Fine | Lamp and shade design & fabrication |
| 22. Mimi Ze Frog, | Carla Lavaste | European style baby bedding & more |
| 23. Miss Fitt & Co. | Wendy Allen | Clothing & accessories |
| 24. Nisa San Francisco, Inc. | Ivy Chan | Urban streetware |
| 25. Onley Make Believe | Gerard Onley | Custom handcrafted pillows |
| 26. Perlman Guitars | Alan Perlman | Handmade guitars & restoration |
| 27. Rebecca Overman | Rebecca Overman | Silver & enamel jewelry |
| 28. Sol Drums & Percussion | Akbar Moghaddam | Custom drum & percussion |
| 29. Studio Dino | Tasha Welch | Contemporary furniture |
| 30. Suzanne George Shoes | Suzanne George | Handcrafted footwear |
| 31. SwirlSpace | Gustavo Alcantar | Hemp clothing |
| 32. TableAsia | Vince Meyer | Custom furniture maker |
| 33. Tinhorn Press/Gallery | Terry Chastain | Fine printing gallery |
| 34. Used Rubber USA | Mandana MacPherson | Accessories from recycled rubber |
| 35. WaterField Designs | Gary Waterfield | Laptop cases from bulletproof nylon |
| 36. WoodShanti | Shawn Berry | Eco-friendly furniture |

More information about the *Shop Outside the Box: Buy from San Francisco Small Businesses* can be found at <http://www.sfbayshop.com> and on the SBC web site at http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/site/sbc_index.asp.

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