



## Ford Announces San Francisco Bay Area Winners of the Ford Freedom Unsung Awards

- Ford partners with the Oakland Private Industry Council (OPIC) to recognize winners of Ford Freedom Unsung in San Francisco Bay Area
- Sterling James, mid-day radio personality at KBLX -FM 102.9 and Vern Glenn, weekend sports anchor at KPIX-TV to host awards event
- Freedom Unsung Awards are part of expanding Ford community presence in the Bay Area, including investments in education, driving safety and disaster response preparedness

**San Francisco, Dec. 7, 2015** – Ford Motor Company today announced the winners of the Ford Freedom Unsung award, celebrating individuals who have made significant contributions in their community. Honorees will be recognized for their outstanding achievements at a special reception at the Rotunda Building located in downtown Oakland on Dec. 8, starting at 6 p.m.

Made possible by a grant from Ford Motor Company Fund, the philanthropic arm of Ford Motor Company, Ford Freedom Unsung salutes and honors people in the following award categories: Community, Education, Military, Youth and Community Organization. Residents of the San Francisco Bay area were invited to nominate their favorite living unsung hero who resided in this area.

“Celebrating those who selflessly uplift and positively impact their communities is what this program is all about,” said Pamela Alexander, director of Community Development, Ford Motor Company Fund. “We are privileged to celebrate the contributions of these Unsung Heroes and look forward to honoring their achievements.”

Ford is bringing its national Ford Freedom Unsung program to San Francisco Bay Area as part of its ongoing commitment to honor distinguished Americans who dedicate their lives to improving their communities and the world. Sterling James, mid-day radio air personality at KBLX-FM 102.9, and Vern Glenn, weekend sports anchor at KPIX-TV will serve as co-hosts of the program.

The 2015 Ford Freedom Unsung San Francisco Bay area awards will be presented to:

### EDUCATION

Cynthia M. Adams  
Oral Lee Brown  
Relonda Hancock-McGhee  
Michael Morgan  
Charles Tinsley

## **MILITARY**

Raymond Banks  
Fred Bowe  
Rodney Cates  
Conway B. Jones, Jr.

## **YOUTH**

Darius Aikens  
Alexis Foster  
Danielle Garrett  
Ciara Smith  
Aaliyah Washington

## **ORGANIZATION**

Ariel Outreach Mission  
The Garden Project Earth Stewards Program  
The Hidden Genius Project  
Lend A Hand Foundation, Inc.  
Men and Women of Purpose  
Solutions for At Risk Youth (SFARY)

## **COMMUNITY**

Carol Ferguson  
Jocelyn Freeman-Garrick  
Genice Jacobs  
Egypt Ina King  
Royce McLemore  
Randy Rowden

Over the past year, Ford Motor Company has expanded its commitment to the San Francisco Bay area by launching philanthropic initiatives with local dealers focused on education, safety and community programs such as disaster response preparedness. Other initiatives that have taken place in Bay Area include:

- Grammy Signature Schools, which this year recognized San Francisco's Phillip and Sala Burton Academic High School with its Enterprise Award.
- Partnership with the Boys and Girls Club chapters to reach as many as 6,000 middle schools students in Northern California. Middle school age students are targeted as a means to help improve graduation rates.
- A donation of a Transit van to the American Red Cross to help with emergency response activities.
- Ford Driving Dreams Tour in San Jose designed to motivate high schools students to graduate high school on time and pursue higher education.

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**About Ford Motor Company**

*Ford Motor Company, a global automotive industry leader based in Dearborn, Mich., manufactures or distributes automobiles across six continents. With about 195,000 employees and 66 plants worldwide, the company's automotive brands include Ford and Lincoln. The company provides financial services through Ford Motor Credit Company. For more information regarding Ford and its products worldwide, please visit [www.corporate.ford.com](http://www.corporate.ford.com).*

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