

**Happy City, Conscious Capitalism,  
Net Impact & the Social Enterprise Alliance of Los Angeles  
Partner to Host Inaugural MakeChange Awards**

*Event Recognizes Companies & Organizations Creating the  
Most Impact For a Better Los Angeles; LACCD's Dr. Chito Cajayon to Keynote*

LOS ANGELES (Nov. 9, 2015) – Leaders in business, nonprofit and social ventures have partnered with [HappyCity](#), [Conscious Capitalism](#), [Net Impact](#) & [Social Enterprise Alliance](#) of Los Angeles to host the inaugural [MakeChange Awards](#), which will recognize Los Angeles-based non-profit and for-profit sectors that have created the most impact to make Los Angeles the best place to work

**The first annual Make Change Awards event will take place 11:30 – 2 p.m. on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at The California Endowment, located at 1000 N. Alameda St. Los Angeles, CA 90012.**

Dr. Chito Cajayon, Vice Chancellor of the Los Angeles Community College District's Economic & Workforce Development is the keynote speaker for the event. He brings close to 20 years of workforce and economic development experience to the district, and works closely with college, university, and corporate leaders in order to make ideas come into fruition. Just in the past 6 years, he has orchestrated strategies that have resulted in over \$35 million in grants and contracts. He holds a doctoral degree from the University of Southern California, a masters degree from Cal-State University-Dominguez Hills, and teaches at Loyola Marymount University.

*"We're in a new era of how people and companies are doing business," said Mika Kim, Founder and Chair of HappyCity. "Traditional non-profit organizations are looking at new ways to become more sustainable through social enterprises, and for-profit businesses are becoming conscious leaders by finding ways to give back to the community. Now is the time to celebrate and elevate the good work of these organizations and companies, and let the public know that there are great places to work...right here in Los Angeles."*

The awards will recognize both non-profit and for-profit sectors based in Los Angeles that have created the most impact to make Los Angeles the best place to work.

**Categories for the awards include the following:**

- Conscious Leadership Of The Year
- [HAPPY] Place To Work For Of The Year
- Impact Of The Year
- Innovation Of The Year
- People's Choice Of The Year
- Social Enterprise Of The Year

The nominated enterprises will be evaluated based on the following criteria: 1) Sustainable Growth & Financial Performance, 2) Innovation & Creativity, 3) Impacts & Improvements, 4) Customer & Community Engagement, 5) Leadership Management, 6) Ethical Business Management, and 7) Workplace Well-Being.

The category for People's Choice Award will be selected based on popular vote via Twitter. Twitter account holders may participate by posting, from their Twitter account ("Twitter ID"), a Twitter Message (a tweet) with the assigned hashtag corresponding to ONE of the organizations/companies they want to vote for. Voting began Monday, November 2 (12:00 PM PST) and will continue through Monday, November 16 (12:00 PM PST).

**Companies and organizations being considered for the People's Choice Award nominees include:**

A Place Called Home , Atwater Park Center, Brainitch, DSTL Arts, Dogeared, Ethiopian Diaspora Fellowship, General Assembly Los Angeles, Groceryships, Hawke Media, Inventure, LA Kitchen, Lift Los Angeles, Living Advantage, MaCher, Maker City LA, Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship of Greater Los Angeles, Opportunity Fund, Piece by Piece, Teens Exploring Technology, The Giving Keys, Trash for Teaching and WhizGirls Academy.

**Event sponsors include:** Momentum Solutions, Downtown Women's Center, Place of the Future and Andrew Watson Design. An after party to celebrate the winners of the awards will be hosted by Green Business Networking in partnership with B Lab.

Tickets for the MakeChange Awards are available at [www.makechangeawards.eventbrite.com](http://www.makechangeawards.eventbrite.com). For any media inquiries or additional information, please email: Mika Kim at [MakeChangeAwards@gmail.com](mailto:MakeChangeAwards@gmail.com). #MakeChange

**ABOUT THE HOSTS**

**HappyCity Los Angeles**

HappyCity Los Angeles exists to co-create a culture of happiness and well-being throughout Los Angeles. Our mission is to mobilize, strategize and organize happiness and well-being initiatives in Los Angeles by bringing both the public and private sectors together to execute a resolution as an effective means of developing well-being policies, plans and programs. @HappyCityLA

**Conscious Capitalism Los Angeles**

The Conscious Capitalism Chapter of Los Angeles (CCLA) exists to deepen and broaden the practice of conscious capitalism throughout the Los Angeles entrepreneurial, business, and professional communities. Our mission is to serve as an indispensable resource to purpose driven professionals seeking to advance the common good through the vehicles of business, finance, philanthropy, and entrepreneurship. @ConsciousCapLA

**Net Impact Los Angeles**

Net Impact Los Angeles is a professional community that mobilizes, supports and inspires professionals to drive positive social and environmental transformation through their careers, to create a more sustainable, inclusive and prosperous world. @NetImpactLA

**Social Enterprise Alliance Los Angeles**

The Social Enterprise Alliance is the only member organization in North America to bring together the diverse field of social enterprise. It serves as advocate for the field, hub of information and education, and builder of a vibrant and growing community of social enterprises. @SEALosAngeles

**MAKECHANGE**

**AWARDS 2015**

FIRST ANNUAL RECOGNITION AWARDS LUNCHEON

**DECEMBER 8**

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