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Press Advisory

East Bay Innovation Bolsters the Region

Oakland, CA February 22, 2016: The results of a highly competitive race for the most innovative companies and organizations in the East Bay will be revealed at the **4th Annual East Bay Innovation Awards**. This annual celebration of the most impactful use of innovation will be hosted at the historic Fox Theater in Oakland by the East Bay Economic Development Alliance (East Bay EDA) on the evening of **Thursday, February 25 (5:00 pm – 8:00 pm)**.

Over 100 strong nominations were received across eight industry categories including: Advanced Manufacturing, Clean Tech, Education, Engineering & Design, Food, Information and/or Communication Technology and Life Sciences. Nominations were also received for a Catalyst of the Year award, recognizing an entity that is currently transcending organizational boundaries to pull East Bay assets together in new ways, new thinking and new processes.

Over 70 nominees moved onto the next stage of review, and underwent a further rigorous assessment by an independent panel of subject matter experts. The 16 Finalists in the eight competitive categories will learn if they are selected as a 2016 East Bay Innovation Awardee at the awards event.

The first award of the evening, before the eight competitive awards are revealed, is the Legacy Award, given to an organization with a lasting impact of promoting a culture of innovation. The University of California, Berkeley is this year's Legacy Award winner.

Press kits will be available at the event and Finalists/Awardees will be available for interviews before and after the event. Profiles of all 16 Finalists will be available in the February 26 edition of the *San Francisco Business Times*. To attend the event and secure an advance copy of the *San Francisco Business Times*, please contact Darien Louie. To schedule an interview time with any of the specific Finalists or UC, Berkeley – please contact Darien Louie.

For Release, February 22, 2016

Award Finalists in the eight competitive categories include (in alphabetical order):

Advanced Manufacturing

- Emerald Packaging www.-empack.com Union City
- Inland Metal Technologies www.inlandmetal.com Hayward

Catalyst of the Year

- Delta Diablo www.deltadiablo.org Antioch
- Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory/CalCharge www.calcharge.org Berkeley

Clean Tech

- Finelite www.finelite.com Union City
- Motiv Power Systems www.motiv.com Hayward

Education

- Hack the Hood www.hackthehood.org Oakland
- The Bread Project www.thebreadproject.org Berkeley

Engineering & Design

- Energy Recovery www.energyrecovery.com San Leandro
- Sila Nanotechnologies www.silanano.com Alameda

Food

- CORE Foods www.corefoods.com Oakland
- OCHO Candy www.ochocandy.com Oakland

Information and/or Communications Technology

- CallidusCloud www.calliduscloud.com Dublin
- Clef <https://getclef.com> Oakland

Life Sciences

- Caribou Biosciences www.cariboubio.com Berkeley
- Ekso Bionics www.eksobionics.org Richmond

About the East Bay EDA

The East Bay Economic Development Alliance (East Bay EDA) is a public-private partnership founded in 1990 to serve the Bay Area's East Bay region (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties) through business attraction, retention and growth strategies. The East Bay EDA's mission is to be the regional voice and networking resource for strengthening the economy, building the workforce and enhancing the quality of life in the East Bay.

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