

# Business Diversity Excellence Awards

## Contractors honored for achievements

Every September, Portland's Business Diversity Institute and its members recognize a group of contractors during the Minority Enterprise Development Week. MED Week is a celebration of the contributions made by minority enterprises and a chance

to recognize and honor accomplished minority business owners and advocates throughout the state and country.

This year, with the help of Business Diversity Institute members and the non-profit Home Forward, formerly Housing Authority of Portland, five local winners have been recognized in the disciplines of services, professional services, construction and manufacturing.

Howard S. Wright was se-

lected as the Corporate Diversity Award winner as a result of their dedication to the inclusion and support of minority owned businesses as well as for their participation in the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs (OAME) and the group's micro-loan program.

Sam Brooks, president and board of directors' chair for OAME has been chose for the Life Achievement Award.

Brooks has been a catalyst

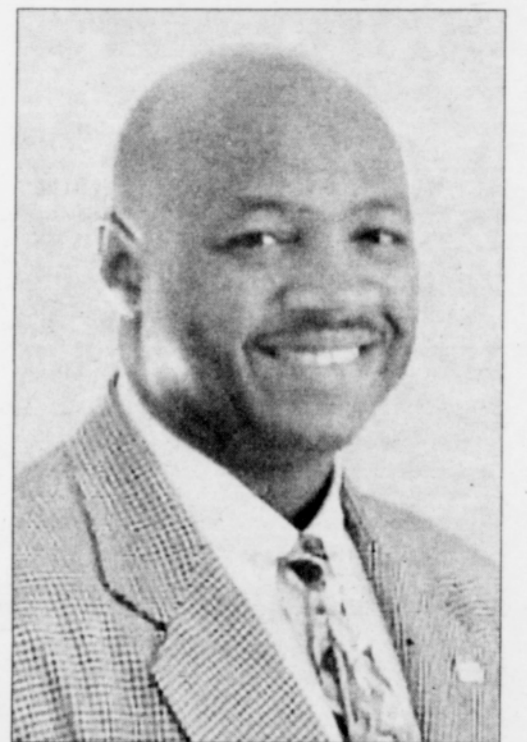
for minority-owned, women-owned, and emerging small business (MWESB) for decades. Sam supports young people through OAME's annual youth entrepreneurship event and is always ready and willing to mentor or coach the next generation of leaders.

Jaime Ramos of Ramos Construction was nominated as an "outstanding company and one to watch in the future."

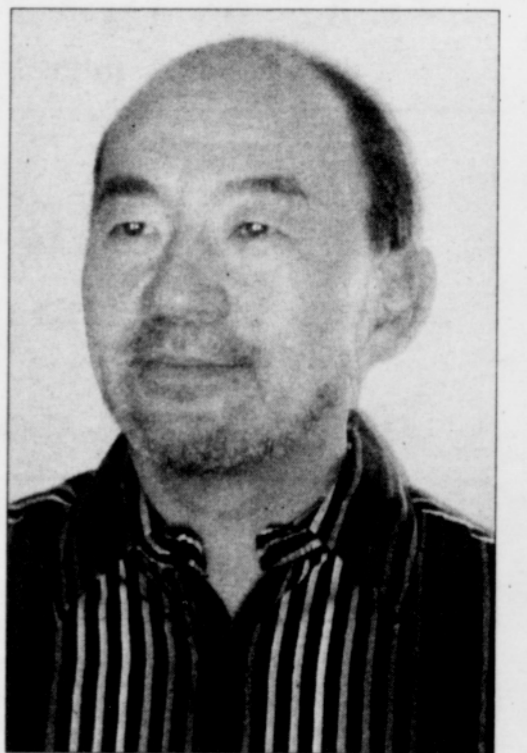
Ramos Construction has



Sam Brooks



Tyrone Henry



Herb Yamamoto

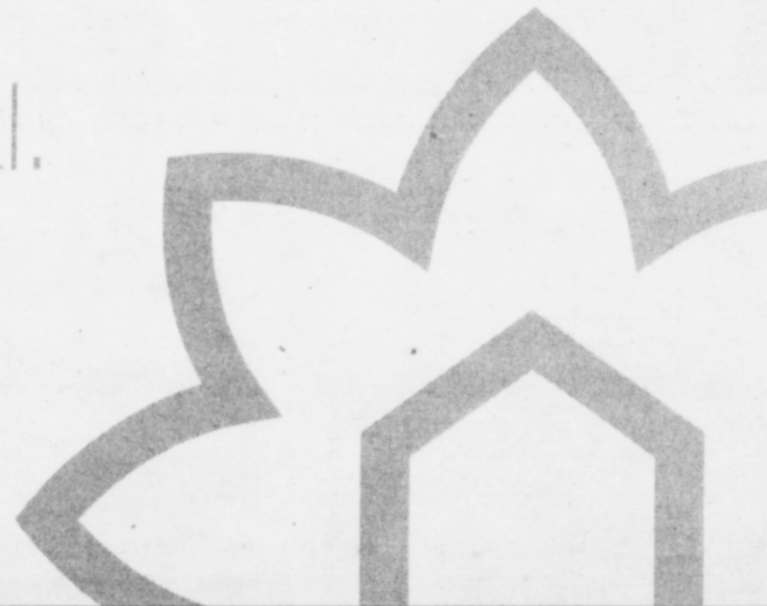
worked on both TriMet and Howard S. Wright projects and at each, did exemplary work and set the standard for local MWESB constructions companies. The company works hard to utilize other MWESB vendors and connect members of the Hispanic community with construction job opportunities.

Winner of the Professional Services Award was CADD Connections. The company founded by Herb Yamamoto has provided Building Infor-

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We're in the business of providing hope, access and potential.

Join us.



**H**ome Forward (formerly the Housing Authority of Portland) provides shelter and support for our neighbors in need. Because with the essentials of a home, individuals can move forward in life. Today, we are more committed than ever to serving our community of Multnomah County by providing **hope, access, and the potential for a better tomorrow.**

To achieve our goals, however, requires the help of our business partners. We frequently have contract opportunities—particularly for **minority, women-owned and emerging small businesses**—in the following areas:

- Professional Services
- Construction Services
- Social Services

Contact Home Forward for more information or to learn about specific opportunities, or for information about resources such as free training, technical assistance, and workforce hiring and training programs.



homeforward.org

For more information, contact:  
Cinna'Mon Williams, CPPO, CPPB, MCA  
Procurement & Contracts Manager · 503.802.8533  
Cinnamon.Williams@homeforward.org