

Women's Business Enterprise Inducted The Castle Group's Sandy Lish into 2018 Hall of Fame

*National American Institute of Diversity and Commerce
Announces Nine WBE Hall of Fame Honorees*

Boston, Mass. and Dallas, Texas, December 11, 2018 – Sandy Lish, principal and co-founder of The Castle Group has been inducted into the 2018 Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) Hall of Fame. As Hall of Fame inductee, Lish was presented with the Trailblazer Award, in recognition of her ongoing support and encouragement of women in business, paving the way for women entrepreneurs, and exhibiting outstanding leadership and achievement.

The WBE Hall of Fame is a nonprofit that recognizes the contributions of national women entrepreneurs and their advocates in their communities, as well as their accomplishments within their industries. Through a network of women's business development organizations, corporate and government advocates and women-owned enterprises, the WBE Hall of Fame spotlights best practices and insights, as women create businesses that help build a stronger economy.

"I'm honored to be recognized by the American Institute of Diversity and Commerce, acknowledging the results my partner, Wendy Spivak, and I have established over the past 22 years," said Lish. "I don't spend every day consciously thinking about what it means to be a 'woman in business' but, every day, my being both a woman and businessperson colors what I do, and why and how I do it."

"Michelle Obama said, 'you will do things you never dreamed possible,' and I've found that to be 100 percent true. Accepting this prestigious award is one of those things," Lish added.

"The WBE Hall of Fame takes great pride in saluting individuals and organizations with outstanding records of advocacy and support for women's business development," said Don McKneely, president of the American Institute of Diversity & Commerce. "We were honored to induct a new group whose long-term commitment to the success of women entrepreneurs has made a transformative impact that has reframed the destinies of so many."

The 10th annual Hall of Fame ceremony recognized nine individuals and corporations from across the United States whose efforts have spurred success for women-owned businesses:

- Sandy Lish, principal and co-founder, The Castle Group
- Eliseo T. Rojas, chairman, Women Presidents' Educational Organization
- Emilia DiMenco, president and CEO, Women's Business Development Center
- Beverly Jennings, head, supplier diversity and inclusion, Johnson & Johnson
- Kathleen Trimble, vice president, supplier diversity, Robert Half International Inc.
- Elba Garcia, DDS., commissioner, Dallas County
- Bob Gonzales, treasurer, Martinez Foundation
- Terrez Thompson, vice president, global supplier diversity, The Coca-Cola Co.
- Chevron Corp.

The induction ceremony, hosted by the American Institute of Diversity & Commerce, was recently held at the Dallas Four Seasons Resort and Club.

About the WBE Hall of Fame

The WBE Hall of Fame is a nonprofit organization launched in 2009 to recognize the contributions of women entrepreneurs in their communities, as well as their accomplishments within their industries. Through a network of women's business development organizations, corporate and government advocates and women-owned enterprises, the WBEHF spotlights best practices and insights, as women create businesses that help build a stronger economy. For more information, visit wbehf.org or call 972-943-4606.

About the American Institute of Diversity & Commerce

Dallas-based American Institute of Diversity & Commerce is a nonprofit 501(c) (3) organization that focuses on education, research, best practices, validation and recognition of performance in diversity and inclusion. AIDC was established to recognize and honor those organizations — nonprofit and for-profit — that demonstrate outstanding performance in these areas.

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