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Archives

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Metro.net (web)

Resources

- ▶ Safety
- ▶ Pressroom (web)
- ▶ Ask the CEO
- ▶ CEO Forum
- ► Employee Recognition
- ▶ Employee Activities
- ▶ Metro Projects
- ► Facts at a Glance (web)
- Archives
- **▶** Events Calendar
- Research Center/ Library
- ▶ Metro Classifieds
- ▶ Bazaar

Metro Info

- ▶ 30/10 Initiative
- Policies
- ▶ Training
- ▶ Help Desk
- ▶ Intranet Policy

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Viewpoint

Metro to Honor 234 Employees at 'Night of Stars'

- 218 Employees to receive 5-Year Performance Awards; 8 to receive Leadership Awards; 6 will receive Spotlight Awards and 2 will be recognized with "Can-Do" Awards.
- Invitation-only event will be held Oct. 17 at Weston Bonaventure Hotel.
- RSVP deadline is Friday, Oct. 10.

By GAYLE ANDERSON

Home

(Oct. 8, 2007) Metro plans to honor 234 employees, Friday, Oct. 17, during a gala "Night of Stars" dinner and awards presentation at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel in downtown Los Angeles.

Draped in the glow of a "Starlight Sonata" theme, the gala will illuminate stellar performance records and integrity of employees who exemplify Metro's core values in their daily work.

The hefty roster includes United Transportation Union (UTU) employees in transportation divisions, Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) employees in maintenance divisions, and, new this year, Transportation Communications Union employees (TCU), and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME). Leadership awards for AFSCME employees will honor one employee from each service sector and one individual from 3 special units: Bus Operations Control (BOC), Rail Operations Control (ROC) and Central Instruction, Operations (OCI).

Four categories of awards will be presented:

• Five-Year performance awards recognize exemplary Operations employees with top safety and attendance records.

Leadership awards acknowledge those with strong leadership and mentoring skills.

- Spotlight awards illuminate those, who in the course of duty, have demonstrated extraordinary customer service.
- Can-Do awards single out one Metro Bus employee and one Metro Rail employee for outstanding leadership in special events and major projects.

The invitation-only event will be held at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. The reception will begin at 6:30 p.m. Dinner is at 7:30 p.m.

Invitations were mailed to honorees in September. The awards dinner is free to honorees and one guest each. The charge for any additional guest is \$45.

Honorees must make reservations for the awards dinner no later than Oct. 10 or risk being denied admittance to the event, due to room capacity and meal availability.

Dress for men is sport coat, collared shirt and slacks, tie optional; dress for women is a dress or pantsuit.

The Westin Bonaventure Hotel is located at 404 S. Figueroa Street in downtown Los Angeles.

Those attending are encouraged to take Metro Rail to the Seventh Street/Metro Center Station and walk north to the hotel at Fifth Street and Figueroa.

Parking is available for \$10 at City National parking garage. Valet parking at the hotel is \$20.

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