

News Summary



ATTENTION:

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YWCA San Diego

September 26, 2011

Keyword	Publication	Publication Date	Page #	# of Pages
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	TOTAL ARTICLES	1		



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Client Name: C3 Communications
Publication Name: San Diego Daily Transcript
Publishing Date: September 26, 2011
Circulation: 10,609
Page Number: 16
Article Size: 41 sq inch

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Yarbrough named 2011 YWCA TWIN Award winner

Source: ABC San Diego

Sherry Yarbrough, executive director of the Associated Builders and Contractors Apprenticeship Training Trust, was selected as a recipient of the prestigious YWCA Tribute to Women & Industry (TWIN) Award. The TWIN Award recognizes successful women executives throughout the United States for their outstanding achievements and positive contributions to their organizations. Recipients were honored at the 32nd Annual TWIN Awards luncheon held in June.

"I am extremely honored to be named as a TWIN Award Recipient and to be included among so many other truly outstanding and dedicated women, especially for something I enjoy so much and believe in wholeheartedly," said Yarbrough.

Yarbrough has devoted her professional life as an educator to providing individuals the opportunity to better their lives. Yarbrough administers and oversees an award-winning, nationally recognized, accredited training program for merit-shop state and federally registered apprentices. The program offers both three and four-year training programs in five different construction crafts including electrical, plumbing, pipefitting, sheet metal/HVAC and electronic systems tech-

In June 2011, the most recent class of 80 graduates received their state, federal and ABC journeyman certificates after completing a rigorous four-year program. Since the San Diego Apprenticeship Training Trust program began in 1989, more than 2,000 graduates have launched rewarding careers. San Diego County's construction industry has benefited from hiring local, well-trained, highly skilled professionals.

Construction remains one of the last few overwhelmingly male-dominated career fields. According to the U.S. Census Bureau and the National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC), construction related jobs account for approximately 66 percent of all jobs in the United States. The workforce comprises of 90.4 percent men and 9.6 percent women (2006). However, women-owned firms are slowly on the rise.

Yarbrough has been a dedicated contributor during her 30 years of leadership as an active member of NAWIC. She is a devoted member of the NAWIC mentoring committee which sponsors MAGIC Camp (Mentoring a Girl in Construction) – a week-long, hands-on summer camp where high school girls have the opportunity to explore the different construction trades and learn from women in the construction industry.

Yarbrough is a founding board member



Courtesy photo

Sherry Yarbrough, executive director of ABC's Apprenticeship Training Trust, won the YWCA's 2011 Tribute to Women & Industry Award.

of the North County Trade Tech Charter High School. This partnership between ABC San Diego and "Trade Tech," as the school is known, has provided an alternative educational path for many at-risk youth. The school was born from a hands-on, project-based learning program through a social services agency that provides live-in facilities for at-risk adolescent boys. The school began in 2008 with 40 freshmen and has added one grade level each year. In the 2011-12 school year it will serve 160 to 180 students and graduate its first senior class.

Source Code: 20110926crk