

## Women Honored at Urban Wheel Awards

The 17th annual Urban Wheel Awards were presented on Jan. 13 in the Sound Board Theater at the MotorCity Casino in Detroit.

The event is the only official multicultural event held in conjunction with the North American International Auto Show.

The Urban Wheel Awards brings together celebrities, automotive executives, international media, government representatives, and the multicultural community – this year to honor women in the automotive industry.

The ceremony celebrated 17 years of “Embracing Multicultural Consumer and Diversity Inclusion” in the automotive industry.

The Michigan Association for Female Entrepreneurs was a partner in this year’s show.

The Urban Wheel Awards is attended by over 1,500 CEOs, executives, presidents and other distinguished individuals from the auto industry and business community at large.

“We are delighted to partner with this year’s Urban Wheel Awards,” says Tonya McNeal-Weary, executive director of Michigan Association for Female Entrepreneurs.

Several women in the auto industry were honored at this year’s dinner. Among them was Jenell Ross, who was awarded the 2013 Pioneer of the Year Award. She is the only second-generation African-American female automobile dealer in the country.

This year’s Lifetime Achievement Award was given to Kathy Jackson. She is celebrated for her 21-year storied career as an automotive journalist with *Automotive News*. Her decorated career included reporting for *Automotive News Europe*, serving as editor-in-chief of *Automotive News Marketer*, and expanding *Automotive News*’ coverage of Asian automakers based in Southern California.

Gail Martin, CEO of Martin

Management Group, was named 2013 African-American Dealer of the Year.

She’s a graduate of Wilberforce University in Ohio. In 2008, she completed and graduated from NADA Dealer Academy.

Lori Lum Toyooka was named Asian Dealer of the Year. She is president and general manager of Lum’s Auto Center, a multi-franchise Oregon dealership which includes Toyota, Scion, Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge.

Evelyn Chatel is this year’s Hispanic Dealer of the Year. This June she celebrated her 30th year in the auto business and is still going strong.

Her diverse professional experience and her “from-the-heart” giving nature are in perfect concert with Freedom Auto Group of Pennsylvania’s core business philosophy of “people come first.”

Chrysler was named this year’s Urban Wheels Corporation of the Year.

## Goddard Named SAE Detroit Chair

The SAE Detroit Section of SAE International recently named Jeremy Goddard its 2013 section chair.

Goddard has spent more than 30 years in a career spanning a broad range of automotive engineering fields.

He has worked for OE manufacturers – including 12 years with Chrysler – and Tier I suppliers, including Visteon, Ricardo, Porsche Engineering, IAV Automotive Engineering, and Edscha Roof Systems, Inc.

His experience in computerized vehicle diagnostics and test equipment has proven vital in grasping the elegance and sophistication of modern controls applications.

Goddard has been involved with SAE International for more than 30 years. Renee Bovair, executive director of SAE Detroit Section, said he’s pleased that Goddard joined the Board and will help promote valuable programs and services for engineers.

“We are looking forward to Jeremy serving as chair this year,”

said Bovair. “He’s very engaged with the section and don’t be surprised if you see him at the majority of our events.”

Goddard is vice president of Business Development at Heide Performance Products. He holds a Masters in Business Administration in International Business from Michigan State University’s Eli Broad Graduate School of Management, a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science from Auburn University, and a Bachelor of Arts in English from the College of William and Mary in Virginia.

SAE International was founded by a small group of mobility-industry pioneers in 1905. The SAE Detroit Section was established in 1911 and is one of SAE International’s largest sections with more than 9,300 members from Southeastern Michigan and Northwestern Ohio, including metropolitan Detroit, Ann Arbor, Jackson and Toledo. The fundamental purpose of the SAE Detroit Section is to generate local activities that extend SAE International’s benefits to all mem-



Jeremy Goddard

bers in this geographical area.

To achieve this, various vehicle meetings are presented each year, as well as technical meetings, tours and social events. To promote awareness for future members, the section provides support to SAE International’s student organizations at eight local universities.

Additionally, individual members are active participants in educational programs for K-12 students such as A World In Motion (AWIM).

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