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Simone "Demo Diva" Bruni to address audience at Business Leadership Awards Luncheon on May 19

METAIRIE, LA – The Jefferson Chamber of Commerce will host the <u>Business Leadership Awards Luncheon</u>, presented by First NBC Bank, on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at the Hilton New Orleans Airport Hotel. The keynote speaker of the luncheon will be local business icon, Simone Bruni, of Demo Diva.

This event honors the accomplishments of both small and large businesses and the impact they have made on the Jefferson Parish business community. Don't miss this celebration of entrepreneurship, achievement, perseverance and community service.

The following award winners will be honored at the event:

Jefferson Chamber Awards:

- Entrepreneur of the Year: Erik Frank, Your Nutrition Delivered
- Small Business of the Year, Presented by Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses: Gillis, Ellis & Baker
- Women Owned Business of the Year, Presented by Gambel Communications: Delta Personnel
- Family Owned Business of the Year: Hollis Companies
- Innovator of the Year: MobileQubes
- Large Business of the Year: Boomtown New Orleans
- Business Progress Award: Tim Paulin, BNI
- Joseph Rault Community Leader of the Year, Presented by Peoples Health: Mike Maenza, MMI Culinary

Small Business Administration Awards:

- Family-Owned Business Champion: Courtney Davis, Bart's Office Furniture Inc.
- Women in Business Champion: Kristen Preau-Moore, Cook Me Somethin' Mister
- Small Business Person of the Year: Todd Matherne, Renaissance Publishing

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Blue Ribbon Awards:

- Strategic Planning Associates, LLC
- Cook Me Somethin' Mister

JEDCO Challenge:

InnoGenomics Technologies

Registration will begin at 11:30 a.m., with the luncheon and program beginning at noon.

Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased at www.jeffersonchamber.org or by calling (504) 835-3880.

Chamber Member tickets are \$35. Non-Member tickets are \$45. Reserved tables for eight guests can be purchased for \$300.

Media are welcome to attend.

About Simone Bruni:

Simone Bruni is founder and owner of <u>The Demo Diva Demolition Company</u>, a residential and commercial demolition company she started to aid her community in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. She brought a pink flamboyance to her marketing strategy by painting all of her heavy equipment and trucks hot pink. She initially started by targeting women customers. However, it was not only women that sought her help but an entire devastated community. Seven years later and with a fleet of hot pink excavators, dumpsters, trucks and a crew of men in hot pink hard hats, the Demo Diva Demolition Company has taken New Orleans by storm. The business has expanded from the greater New Orleans area to the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

The Demo Diva is blazing a trail in a male dominated industry and reinvented the recipe for construction marketing, PR, social media and customer service that creates strong brand identity and raving "fans" instead of customers. Starting with an opportunity and a single hot pink dumpster, The Demo Diva has become not just an inspirational business success story, but a local business icon.

About the Jefferson Chamber:

The <u>Jefferson Chamber</u> is a leading voice for Jefferson Parish's business community. As a non-profit, membership-driven organization, the Chamber is an effective advocate for small and large businesses at the local, state and federal levels. The Chamber's mission is to work for the advancement of the business community; to enhance the economic, civic and cultural environment; and to improve the quality of life in Jefferson Parish. The Jefferson Chamber is Four-Star Accredited by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and was awarded the 2013 Chamber of the Year Award by the Louisiana Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives in the Large Chamber Category.

For more information about the Jefferson Chamber, visit www.jeffersonchamber.org, and follow on Facebook, Twitter @jeffersoncoc, and YouTube.

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