Oakland, April 1, 2009

Bay area major corporations and minority suppliers received awards for excellence in supplier diversity at Bollywood Ball, the 31st annual awards gala hosted by the Northern California Minority Supplier Development Council (NCMSDC), a non-profit organization with a long history of promoting minority supplier development in the marketplace. This year’s event attracted procurement professionals, along with hundreds of diverse business owners ranging from temporary staffing agencies to architects, business consultants and more.

Each year, the council solicits nominations for eight corporate and supplier awards. Corporate award categories were: Corporation of the Year, Executive of the Year, Corporate Coordinator of the Year and Buyer of the Year. Minority supplier categories were: Supplier of the Year, Class I (annual sales less than $1M), Class II ($1-$10M), Class III ($10-50M), and Class IV (greater than $50M).

NCMSDC was pleased to present this year’s Corporation of the Year Award to Kaiser Permanente; the Executive of the Year Award to Katie Luk-Chan of Kaiser Permanente; the Corporate Buyer of the Year Award to Claudia E. Chan of Kaiser Permanente; and the Corporate Coordinator of the Year Award to Vaughn Mootoo of Chevron Corporation.

With its Supplier of the Year Award in Classes I-IV, NCMSDC also honored outstanding Minority-owned Business Enterprises that have demonstrated excellence in their services and shown growth in sales and employment while overcoming significant obstacles. This year’s Supplier of the Year Awards were presented to S.F. Language Services, Inc. (Class I), TSAO Design Group (Class II), Sugar Bowl Bakery (Class III), and Pointandship Software, Inc. (Class IV). Kaiser Permanente and D.W. Morgan Company, Inc., also a Minority-owned Business Enterprise, awarded executive scholarships to Supplier of the Year winners Jonathan Tsao, Principal of Tsao Design Group, an architectural firm, and Egladir Xavier, Founder/CEO of SF Language Services, Inc., a company specializing in language services.

NCMSDC would like to congratulate all of its Excellence in Supplier Diversity Award winners and commend them on their dedication to minority supplier development.