

## NAAAP SoCal Awards Ryan Patel, Business Leader of the Year

Non-profit celebrates 10th-yearanniversary gala and industry movers and shakers

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES, April 24, 2018
/EINPresswire.com/ -- The National Association of Asian American Professionals of Southern California



(NAAAP-SoCal), will award Global Business Executive, <u>Ryan Patel</u>, for his accomplishments at their 10th-year-anniversary gala. Some of the top Asian-American business leaders in the Greater Los Angeles community will gather on May 12, 2018, at the Westin Bonaventure in Downtown Los



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Lance Hong, Vice President,

NAAAP SoCal: Los Angeles

Chapter

Angeles, to celebrate this year's gala theme, "Together We Are Stronger". This theme pays tribute to the communal encouragement and empowerment NAAAP aims to cultivate within its members.

Ryan Patel is one of only four recipients who will receive an award at the 2018 NAAAP-SoCal Annual Awards Gala. Each award honors the non-profits core values to cultivate, engage, connect and inspire. Patel will be accepting the NAAAP SoCal Business Leader of the Year, "Connect" Award, which awards accomplished professionals on mutual success.

"Many business leaders are celebrated for having great ideas on scaling brands to the global stage," says Lance Hong, Vice President, NAAAP SoCal: Los Angeles Chapter. "Those ideas are inspired by Ryan Patel."

Patel has established himself as a thought-leader and expert in growing and scaling companies. His wheelhouse includes working with both publicly traded companies as well as startups. In 2017, <a href="Inc.">Inc.</a> <a href="Magazine">Magazine</a> listed him as one of nine executives and innovators who serve as an inspiration for how all businesses can make a difference. He most notably helped turn the once young frozen-yogurt brand, Pinkberry, into a global leader, expanding its stores from 95 locations to 270 locations across 23 countries, during his tenure as VP of Global Development. He combines his passion for business and giving back by sitting on numerous boards, such as Red Cross of LA, and coaching entrepreneurs.

"I am humbled to receive this award and to celebrate with such a supportive community that fosters the making of our generation's next great leaders," says Patel. "We truly are stronger together and this award represents how far we've come and the boundaries we've been able to cross".

Patel embodies the core values NAAAP strives to proliferate with its nearly 20,000 Asian professionals from 30 chapters nationwide. Their extensive network and influence in the community have garnered them an impressive list of attendees. Representatives from US Bank, Hugo Boss,

Airbnb, and Buzzfeed, to name a few, will be in attendance at this year's gala.

For more information and to learn how to get involved, visit their website at <a href="https://www.naaap.org">www.naaap.org</a> and follow them on Twitter @NAAAP.

About Ryan Patel Ryan Patel is a global business executive, decorated speaker and entrepreneur. Before he served as the Vice President of Global Development for Pinkberry he worked for Wet Seal Retail, Inc (Arden B, WS) Jamba Juice, BJ's Restaurants, Inc & Panda Express. He was awarded the 2015 Executive of the Year by the LA Business Journal and Special US Congressional Recognition for outstanding services to the community. In 2017, Inc. Magazine listed him as one of nine executives and innovators who serve as an inspiration for how all businesses can make a difference. He serves on the advisory boards for Communities for Cause, Inc., GIVN Goods Inc., and American Red Cross Los Angeles Region. Connect with him on LinkedIn and follow him on Twitter @RyanPatelGlobal.

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