## **Colorado Department of Labor and Employment Apprenticeship Awards 2019**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

For immediate release Date: November 6, 2019 Contacts: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment Amelia Tenne amelia.tenne@state.co.us, 303.318.8004

Colorado Department of Higher Education Megan McDermott <u>megan.mcdermott@state.co.us</u>, 303.974.2495

Colorado Community College System Fiona Lytle <u>fiona.lytle@cccs.edu</u>, 720.858.2471

CareerWise Colorado Jason Jansky **jason.jansky@careerwisecolorado.org**, 303.748.3300

Photos of the event can be found on **Facebook** or in this folder.

"Apprenticeships Make Colorado Stronger" — Business Experiential-Learning Commission an Lt. Gov. Primavera Honor Apprenticeship Advocates in "Celebration of Excellence" Award Ceremony

During its "Celebration of Excellence" event, the Business Experiential-Learning Commission honored the achievem of apprentices and celebrated businesses, mentors, and programs committed to increasing awareness and adoption of apprenticeships.

(Denver) -- Last night at the Governor's Residence at Boettcher Mansion, the Business Experiential-Learning (BEL) Commission honored six apprentices, three mentors, and five employers who have worked to further the awareness ar adoption of apprenticeship programs, widely recognized to be an effective way to gain in-demand skills while earning paycheck in a rapidly changing economy.

The event, sponsored by CareerWise Colorado and FirstBank, was made possible by the governor-appointed BEL Commission, partners from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, the Colorado Workforce Developmed Council, the Colorado Community College System, the Colorado Department of Higher Education, CareerWise Colorado and representatives from business and industry. (For a full list of BEL Commission members, click here.)

Colorado Lieutenant Governor Dianne Primavera attended the event, where she took photos with the award recipients described the benefits of apprenticeship programs, and highlighted what the Polis administration has accomplished in workforce development. Titled "Celebration of Excellence: Colorado Apprenticeship Awards," the event closely follo Governor Jared Polis' **proclamation** of November as Colorado Apprenticeship Month.

Spanning a wide range of industries, apprenticeships have been shown to benefit both workers and employers. Worke earn a paycheck while learning skills that help them remain competitive in a rapidly changing economy; employers gat skilled talent who have received customized training tailored to specific business needs. According to the **US Depart** of Labor, apprenticeships also benefit employers by increasing retention and safety.

Our mailing address is:

Colorado Department of Labor & Employment

633 17th St

Suite 1200

Denver, CO 80202-3660

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