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Sacramento briefing: Top Sacramento women business leaders lauded

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A swimwear designer, a workplace expert and a travel agent were among a group of entrepreneurs and executives honored Thursday as the Sacramento area's top women business leaders.

The annual awards were announced during a downtown Sacramento luncheon sponsored by the Sacramento Valley chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners.

Rosanna Garcia, NAWBO awards chairwoman, said most of this year's winners demonstrated that women can tap earlier corporate experience and launch successful second careers as entrepreneurs. The awards acknowledge those accomplishments, Garcia said.

"They were being recognized by other women who are just as successful as them," she said.

The winners and their awards are: Allie Hennessy of MaxOut Swimwear in Loomis, Woman Innovator Award; Jacintha Perera of Island Getaways in Sacramento, Vision Award; Lorraine Rinker of Rinker and Associates in El Dorado Hills, Luminary Award; Maria Pasquale of Union Bank, Executive Woman Award; Sacramento photographer Ilse Spivek, the Achievement Against All Odds Award; Kim Silvers of Silvers HR Management in Granite Bay, Wise Woman Award; and Sacramento author Heather Estay, Woman on the Way Award.

A special recognition award was presented to the family of the late Anne Federico of the Federico Beauty Institute.

-- Gilbert Chan