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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Nominations are Now Open for the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Oakland Indie Awards!**

**One PacificCoast Bank and Foundation Team Up With East Bay Express to Celebrate Oakland's Fresh, Forward, and Enterprising Small Businesses and Artists**

**OAKLAND, Calif. (March 14, 2014)**– The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Oakland Indie Awards is an annual event hosted by One PacificCoast [Bank](#) and [Foundation](#), in partnership with [East Bay Express](#), encouraging people to recognize the positive community, economic, environmental impacts of supporting locally-owned businesses and artists. At the Indies, locals are the rock stars. The community is invited to nominate their favorite Oakland-based businesses and artists in one of seven categories- Oakland Soul, Ripple Effect, Innovative Newcomer, Social Changemaker, Greenie, Job Creator and Pillar- for their shot to be honored on the Indies stage. The Indie Award nominations are open until March 28<sup>th</sup> at [www.OaklandIndieAwards.com](http://www.OaklandIndieAwards.com).

Established in 2007, the event features an awards ceremony hosted by Oakland community leaders and a party at the Kaiser Center Rooftop Garden! This is a party with a purpose featuring live performances, fresh food and drinks, an Indie Marketplace, revolutionary art and an all-around great vibe! Last year, the Indies party brought together over 1,300 people for a memorable night under the stars.

“The Oakland Indie Awards is a chance for all of us to appreciate the amazing creativity and activism displayed by Oakland’s entrepreneurs,” said Oakland Indie Award founder, Erin Kilmer-Neel.

The Indies’ crowd is as diverse as Oakland itself, derived partially from the City’s leaders, nonprofits, public officials, and socially-responsible financial institutions, and from the extremely eclectic group of 400+ deeply community-minded businesses and artists who are nominated for awards. The Indies are where the suits meet the tats. In seven years, the Indie Awards has presented over 100 awards to Oakland-based enterprises.

We hope that you’ll come out on May 30<sup>th</sup> to celebrate with us at the Kaiser Center Rooftop Garden! More information can be found at [www.Oaklandindieawards.com](http://www.Oaklandindieawards.com).

The May 30<sup>th</sup> party starts at 6:30pm at the Kaiser Center Rooftop Garden at 300 Lakeside Drive in downtown Oakland. For more information, contact Lula Falol (lfalol@onepcf.org)

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### **About One PacificCoast Bank and Foundation**

One PacificCoast Bank, FSB, is an FDIC-insured Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) that serves businesses, nonprofit organizations, and individuals. One PacificCoast Bank operates from a triple bottom-line measuring its financial, social, and environmental impact to meet the needs of its communities. The bank is headquartered in Oakland, CA with branches in Seattle, WA, Ilwaco, WA, Portland, OR and a Loan Production Office in Sacramento, CA.

The One PacificCoast Foundation supports the goals of One PacificCoast Bank by creating initiatives and engaging in programs that increase access to financial services, help alleviate economic distress, strengthen community development, and improve financial capacity. One PacificCoast Foundation holds the economic rights of One PacificCoast Bank.

Learn more at [www.OPCB.com](http://www.OPCB.com) and [www.ONEPCF.org](http://www.ONEPCF.org)

### **About the East Bay Express**

From our authoritative cover stories to our in-depth local reporting, arts and dining coverage, and the area's most comprehensive weekly calendar, the *East Bay Express* has been this vibrant region's leading voice since 1978.

Learn more at [www.EastBayExpress.com](http://www.EastBayExpress.com)