

Herbert G. Klein Visionary Award Presented to Bob Benson

Herb Klein's contributions of leadership, dedication, and service to our community are almost unparalleled. The impact of his work has touched innumerable civic, social and non-profit organizations throughout our region and across the country. In the spirit of his achievements and in keeping with our commitment to identify and develop civic leaders, LEAD welcomed Mr. Klein to the 2009 Visionary Awards. He stated how happy he was to be able to address the organization - one he believes in and which we should all support.

He presented the perpetual award, named for him in 2007, along with co-presenters Michelle Brega from Bank of America and Drew Schlosberg, from the *San Diego Union-Tribune*. This year's recipient was **Bob Benson**, Director, Service & Civic Leadership at the University of California San Diego Extension, and a member of current Impact San Diego class. Benson congratulated his fellow finalists, as well as his 2009 classmates and advised the LEAD community that there are many stewards from the Class of 2009 who will continue to work for the San Diego region post graduation.



The top five finalists were hosted at a VIP table, courtesy of [San Diego National Bank](#).

Benson was recognized by fellow class members as one of San Diego's key future leaders who has demonstrated potential to effect change upon graduation. Past award winners include **Dalouge Smith**, San Diego Youth Symphony (2007) and **Hal Dunning**, Barney & Barney (2008).

Other finalists for the Class of 2009 Herbert G. Klein Awards were:

Karen Bucey
Small Business Liaison
City of San Diego

Kevin Crawford
Fire Chief
City of Carlsbad

Shaina Gross
Community Impact Manager
United Way of San Diego County

and

Donna Marie Robinson
Vice President
Community/Commercial Lending
San Diego National Bank