PMI Today

Chapters, Community Awards Ghapters, Communities Feted for Outstanding Programs and Leadership

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t a ceremony that was one of the highlights of the PMI Leadership Institute Meeting held in October in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, PMI honored 17 chapters and three communities of practice for their outstanding commitment and leadership in supporting top-notch programs, projects and activities. The contributions of these communities are key factors in the continued success of PMI and its communities around the world.

Chapter-by-chapter and communityby-community, here is a look at the "leaders among leaders." In addition to a list of achievements that led to winning awards, many leaders explain what the experience is like for new members and new volunteers in their communities.

Individual award winners for leadership and volunteer of the year will be found under their chapter names.

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PMI New York City Chapter

Award Received: Collaboration and Outreach

Some 2011 Achievements:

- Worked with TimeBanks NYC to share members' talents for personal improvement and the good of the community.
- Established an academic outreach program to provide mentoring and networking opportunities to those interested in project management while still in school.
- Provided volunteers to train teachers at the high school level in project management skills. Those skills are being used by students to prepare business plans for virtual companies in competitions under the auspices of the U.S. Network of Virtual Enterprises International.
- Offered one invitation-only event to leaders of project management offices. 70 people attended.
- Collaborated with the PMI New Jersey Chapter to participate in Citi's PM Awareness Week.

PMI New York City Chapter President Joshua Lerner, PMP, said the chapter has separate corporate outreach, public sector outreach, academic outreach and community outreach teams, which are active in various events and initiatives. From a community outreach perspective, "We help in restoring parks, which



Community outreach—park restoration

were otherwise abandoned in New York, and we volunteer each year at the world famous ING New York City Marathon. In our academic outreach space, we have set up two scholarship awards for US\$1,000 each, and have set up a US\$25,000 educational endowment."

Mr. Lerner said a member joining the PMI New York City Chapter "can expect a first-class organization, which has a calendar full of exciting programs and events." Speakers are hand-picked to outline the professional diversity of project management in various



Youth outreach—softball team

disciplines and industries, such as entertainment, restaurants, the legal profession, the transportation sector and many others.

PMI Northern Italy Chapter

Award Received: Giorgio Bensa, PMP, Volunteer of the Year

Some 2011 Achievements:

 Mr. Bensa provided an outstanding contribution to the use of

project management best practices in primary school, an initiative promoted by the chapter since 2006.

Thanks to his constant and passionate effort, the chapter had the opportunity of increasing the value of its "PM Kit," a resource for primary schools that covers all steps needed to conceive, organize, deliver and capitalize a didactic project under the supervision of teachers and the



Giorgio Bensa, PMP

involvement of pupils as project managers or team members.

- Within this context, he organized and managed a social initiative called "Projects in Bloom" by involving a large population of stakeholders in Gorizia, Italy. Thanks to this involvement, local press and TV provided high visibility to the award ceremony that was attended by over 250 people in Gorizia.
- The PMI Slovenia, Ljubljana Chapter, as a consequence of its participation in the award ceremony, decided to join the next edition of "Projects in Bloom" and spent a significant effort to deliver the seventh translated version of the "PM Kit for Primary School."



Projects in Bloom

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