

**For Immediate Release** Oct. 5, 2017 For More Information Contact: Susan Rak-Blanchard Director of Communications & Marketing 251-431-8641 / susan@mobilechamber.com



## Mobile Area Chamber Names 2017 Eagle Award Winners & Minority Business Advocate

## Mobile Area Chamber's Eagle Awards Event

The Mobile Area Chamber launched this event in 1998, making this year the **20<sup>th</sup>** celebration of minority-owned businesses.

The Chamber has presented **89** awards to **79** different minority-owned companies. **When**: Wednesday, Oct. 18 **What**: Diversity Forum kicks-off at 8:30 a.m. followed by the awards luncheon **Where**: Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel **Cost**: \$70 guests / \$60 Mobile Area Chamber members **RSVP**: 251.431.8607 **Gaines Plumbing** and **Harper Technologies** are the 2017 Eagle Award winners, earning recognition by the Mobile Area Chamber for business success and outstanding community contributions or involvement. Gaines Plumbing adopted a unique model for a traditional trade with year-round service agreements. Harper Technologies is a comprehensive IT support and consulting firm with a regional reach.

In addition, the Chamber will recognize **WALA FOX10** with the Rev. Wesley A. James Minority Business Advocate award for its two decades of support of the Eagle Awards and its outreach to the minority community through its programs.

Author, educator, entrepreneur and keynote speaker **Stedman Graham** will talk on identity development and leadership during the luncheon.

The day begins at 8:30 a.m. with a Diversity Forum featuring a panel of experts – **Alice Gordon** with SKYE Connect, **Marcus Neto** with Blue Fish and **Nathaniel Patterson** with A Culture of Excellence – leading a discussion on marketing, digital and social media, branding and communications strategies.