

American Express's Washington to Deliver Keynote Address at USC Black Business Students Association Black History Month GALA Dinner.

Los Angeles, CA. – Jan, 1 2005 - -- USC's Black Business Student Association(BBSA) today announced that Stanley E. Washington, Vice President/ General Manager Western Region for American Express will deliver the keynote address at it's Black History Month Gala Dinner, February, 8th, 2005 on the campus of the University of Southern California.

"BBSA is honored to present Stan Washington as its keynoter," said Ivan Beard, President of BBSA. "A Lot of times inspiration to achieve excellence is sparked by the words you have listened to. We look forward to hearing Stan's unique perspective on success."

"I really appreciated how much support and guidance I got while coming up in business, and now that I am in a position to do so, it is both an honor and pleasure to have the opportunity to extend the same support to the business leaders of tomorrow."

Mr. Washington has over two decades of experience in the financial services industry. Currently, Stan is the Vice President/ General Manager for American Express' US corporate card services division. His prior post was as the Regional Vice President & General Manager for the \$46 billion American Express Establishment Services Division.

Mr. Washington received his bachelor's degree in Marketing from Howard University in Washington DC. Stan's board positions include chairman of the Los Angeles Sports & Entertainment Commission, Executive Board Member Los Angeles Convention & Visitors Bureau to name a few.

BBSA's Gala is a black tie affair that will feature artistic exhibits with pieces reflecting Black culture, numerous opportunities to network with USC alumni/ American express professionals while dinning on a three course gourmet meal.

Credentialed reporters are eligible for complimentary registration. For more information, please contact Ivan Beard, BBSA President at ibeard@usc.edu or call (323) 691-9877.

About American Express

American Express Company is a diversified worldwide travel, network, and financial services provider founded in 1850. It is a leader in charge and credit cards, travel, financial planning, investment products, insurance and international banking.

About Black Business Students Association (BBSA)

Founded in 1982 the Black Business Student Association at USC has been at the forefront of professional development and career advancement in a variety of industries for students at USC. Please Visit BBSA online: <http://www-scf.usc.edu/~bbsa/>

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