



NEWS RELEASE

WYOMING DISTRICT OFFICE

Release Date: May 5, 2009

Release Number: 09-21

Contact: Sharon Nichols (307) 261-6508

Internet Address: <http://www.sba.gov/wy>

Ken Holloway, SAME Music and The Jazz Spot, Named Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2009

Casper – The Wyoming District Office of the U.S. Small Business Administration has named Ken Holloway, SAME Music and The Jazz Spot, the Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2009. This award will be presented to him on Monday, June 8, 2009, at the Annual Chamber Dinner to be held at the Parkway Plaza Hotel & Convention Centre in Casper. Steven Despain, District Director of the Wyoming Small Business Administration, will be presenting Mr. Holloway with this award. Ken was nominated by Bill and Mabelle Holloway.

This award is given to an individual who serves as a majority owner and operates or bears principal responsibility for operating a small business with a three year track record and who will not have reached the age of 30 by June 1, 2009. Criteria used to evaluate the nominees for this category is evidence of success as measured by sales and profits; increased employment opportunities; development and or utilization of innovative or creative business methods and demonstrated entrepreneurial potential necessary for long-term business success and economic growth.

The President of the United States recognizes contributions of the small business community to the American economy and society by proclamation each year.

Mr. Holloway got his start over thirteen years ago and is now 25 years old. He began playing the guitar at age eight and later the drums. When he was 12, he began setting up equipment and sound systems for private parties and weddings. Next he promoted his first concert, working with five local bands; the concert was a hit. In high school, Ken became a member of DECA, and during this time he was running his sound rental and DJ business. One year after graduating from high school he opened SAME Music (Starving Artists Music Equipment). One of the first large orders he received was the installation of 102 speakers at the Wind River Casino. In January 2008, Ken and his wife Hillary, purchased The Jazz Spot, which has since proved very profitable. He credits his parents, Mabelle and Bill Holloway, with having the largest influence over him in his career. Mabelle says, “Ken is a humble young man and his entrepreneurial spirit embodies the significance of the Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award.”

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For more information about SBA's programs for small businesses, call 307-261-6500 or TDY 307-261-6527 or visit the SBA's extensive Web site at www.sba.gov/wy.

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