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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AABLI to Honor Community and Business Visionary Partners

Shared commitment to leadership diversity to move society forward to be highlighted

LOS ANGELES – May 15, 2018 -- The African American Board Leadership Institute (AABLI) has selected **Union Bank** and the **Ralph M. Parsons Foundation** as recipients of its 2018 Vision Awards, to be presented May 16 at AABLI’s annual Tribute Reception at the City Club in Los Angeles.

Union Bank, represented by Sylvia Castillo, director, foundation and community outreach officer, invests philanthropic dollars into communities with the expectation of a return of healthy communities. Union Bank’s support of AABLI has provided leaders for nonprofit, government and educational organizations that govern those target communities. Healthy communities attract more businesses and provide more jobs, resulting in more financial resource services.

Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, represented by Wendy Garen, president & CEO, was established in 1961 and distributed over \$18 million in grants last year. Similar to AABLI, the Foundation focuses on work to increase diversity at the decision-making level within Los Angeles County, one of the most exciting, dynamic, complex, and quickly evolving environments in the country.

These two responsive grant makers are examples of thought leaders who help move the needle of change in board rooms to address community concerns with contemporary relevance - the foundation of AABLI’s purpose.

As AABLI’s graduates make meaningful and significant contributions as members of governing boards, these two visionary partners have made significant contributions to the community, particularly in opening the doors of opportunity to shape positive change in the boardrooms.

“For the past five years, we’ve used this occasion to bring our community together to present the AABLI Vision Award,” says AABLI Co-Founder, President and CEO Yvette Chappell-Ingram. She continues, “Union Bank and the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation are progressive community and business partners that demonstrate how we together astutely move the needle of change in board rooms to address community concerns with relevance.”

For information about attending the Tribute Reception, please contact Victoire Prothro at (213) 346-3241 or vprothro@aabli.org.

About the African Board Leadership Institute

The African American Board Leadership Institute (a project of Community Partners, an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit), is a premier organization whose mission is to strengthen nonprofit, public and private organizations through recruiting, preparing and assisting with the placement of African Americans on a broad range of governing boards. AABLI alumni serve diverse communities by shaping positive change. For more information about AABLI’s activities, visit www.aabli.org.

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