

## The Real Estate Finance Association update: The 32nd Annual Virtual Gala – October 19th

September 11, 2020 - Financial Digest

Boston, MA REFA was busy at work in August planning its fall programming.

REFA's 6th Webinar: Hiring Diversely with Intention, originally slated to take place on Wednesday, September 9th, will be rescheduled for the end of September. The new date will be announced soon. Mandy Eckhoff, Partner, Robinson + Cole, will moderate the conversation with John B. Cruz III, president and CEO, Cruz Companies, Linda Dorcena Forry, vice president of diversity, inclusion and community for the Northeast, Suffolk Construction, and Tom O'Brien, founding partner & managing director, The HYM Investment Group. The webinar will be an important conversation on how companies have made diverse hiring a priority. The panel will discuss the importance of diverse teams, creating a culture of inclusiveness, and how companies can refine their own hiring practices to build a more diverse workforce.

REFA is excited to announce this year's 32nd Annual Virtual Gala – Join them on Monday, October 19th at 4:00pm. This year's Gala honorees are Kirk Sykes, co-managing partner, Accordia Partners, and Tammy Jones, co-founder and CEO, Basis Investment Group. Both extraordinary leaders in Boston's Commercial Real Estate Industry, they are also driving forces for diversity and inclusion in Greater Boston.

The REFA Gala is the key fundraising event of the year, and it is critical to help maintain the level of staffing and programming of REFA and support their designated charities. Charity and supporting those in need is core to REFA's mission.

A portion of the proceeds from the REFA Gala will help support Rosie's Place, FamilyAid Boston, and HomeStart, organizations fighting to end homelessness in Greater Boston.

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