

# 2018 Wheaton Urban Citizens Advisory Board Awards

Awards will be presented at the Wheaton/Kensington Chamber of Commerce annual community awards banquet on April 25, 2018

## AWARDEES

### **Outstanding Business Leader of the Year**

Peredo Family, Kantutas, Unplugged, La Union Wheaton Restaurants

The Peredo's business team established Kantutas Restaurant in May 2008, a family owned and operated business that has five employees. The restaurant went from a very small establishment with a capacity of 25 people to 55. Kantutas specializes in authentic Bolivian cuisine. The aroma and taste of a variety of dishes make the restaurant a destination. The food has a fresh Andean touch, with a health emphasis and a very cozy place. Maria and everyone on her staff offers personable customer service that makes Kantutas a little gem for people from all walks of life located in Wheaton and surrounding areas.

In September 2015, the family opened Unplugged Sport Bar and Restaurant at 11305 Georgia Avenue in Wheaton. The number of employees has grown to eight employees. Unplugged has a capacity for 200 people and includes three distinctive areas. The Activity Area for dancing/ Karaoke, ping pong and other amenities, the Dining area and the Patio. The place has also two VIP areas and a stage for business and social events.

The third business is La Union (for a place to be united) Restaurant and Catering which is due to open May 2017, at 11238 Georgia Avenue in Wheaton. The restaurant will offer a variety of representative food from the United States, Central and South America.

What makes their enterprise so unique is the team they have created. Each member brings valuable assets to the businesses and enjoy working together as a family. Agustina, Maria's mother, the chef, provides visions, initiatives and many years of cooking and innovative experience. Fernando, Maria's brother, is the marketer and promoter, as well as, offering hands on experience as a bartender and chef assistant.

Maria is the administrator and key innovator, does accounting work and floor management. She is a vivid and enthusiastic customer service example with her natural people oriented personality, charisma and continuous efforts to provide the best food for every client coming to their restaurants. All three leads by example, show commitment and dedication. The Peredo's family and team also lead a great staff focus on making sure clients come back and are delighted with the food and the service offered.

The Peredos are business owners who have made Wheaton their home. Managing three restaurants in downtown Wheaton demonstrates this commitment.

## **Best Property Improvement of the Year**

Ava Wheaton  
2425 Bluedridge  
Wheaton, MD 20902

Swayzine Bryant  
**Community Manager**

**AVA Wheaton**  
2425 Blueridge Ave  
Wheaton, MD 20902  
[www.avawheaton.com](http://www.avawheaton.com)

AVA Wheaton is a brand new living space in Wheaton. On the corner of Georgia Ave. and Blueridge Ave, AVA opened August 2017 offering 319 (#) of apartments – studio, one, two and three bedroom options. Both inside and out, AVA Wheaton brings together both convenience and charm. Their landscaped lounge courtyards, pool, fitness center, bike repair shop and storage, pet spa and the street-side landscape add up to an attractive addition to the Wheaton scenery. These apartments are designed with sustainability in mind meeting the LEED Silver requirements so residents can live in an environment that's lighter on the planet and its resources. AVA markets their proximity to metro, access to local transportation routes, and Wheaton local restaurants and shopping as part of their attraction.