



PRESS RELEASE
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**Local Nonprofit Leaders return from Harvard Business School course on
Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management**

Peter A. Mello, managing director of WaterFire Providence and Angelo Garcia, founder of The Segue Institute of Learning in Central Falls complete executive education program.

Providence, RI (July 23, 2015) – Peter A. Mello, the managing director of WaterFire Providence and Angelo Garcia, the founder and executive director of The Segue Institute of Learning and, received scholarships from the Harvard Business School Association of South Eastern New England (HBSASENE) to attend Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management (SPNM).

This is the fourteenth year that HBSASENE has sponsored local nonprofit leaders to attend Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management, an intensive six-day program designed to strengthen the capacity of nonprofit CEOs and executive directors to lead their organizations effectively.

“Our membership is actively involved in the local community so we enthusiastically support scholarships to local nonprofit leaders through the Blackall Scholarship Fund,” explained Thor Johnson, President of the HBSA-SNE. “Twenty-six leaders from local nonprofit organizations have received these scholarships over the past 14 years. They all tell us the experience has been invaluable for them and for the organizations they lead. These scholarships have a positive impact on our community.”

“This was a terrific educational opportunity. Through the case-studies and our peers, we explored the many different challenges that face nonprofits throughout the country and world,” observed Peter A. Mello, managing director of WaterFire Providence, “It helps you reflect on your own challenges and opportunities with a broader range of experience.”

“I am still absorbing the experience! Throughout the week, we had the opportunity to work on issues specific to our organization with the input of faculty and peers. The different lenses help generate more ideas and alternatives,” according Angelo Garcia, the founder and executive director of The Segue Institute of Learning, “I can’t wait to apply my learning to The Segue Institute and to share this experience with my staff”

SPNM provides a conceptual approach to shape the direction, mission, policies, and major programs of nonprofit organizations. Participants explore strategic concepts in mission focus, market sensitivity, organizational structure, and performance management and control. Participants also take part in Peer Consultations, small-group consultative sessions in which they address critical challenges facing their organizations.

About WaterFire Providence

WaterFire Providence is a 501(c)3 independent, non-profit arts organization whose mission is to inspire Providence and its visitors by revitalizing the urban experience, fostering community engagement and creatively transforming the city by presenting WaterFire for all to enjoy. Created in 1994 by the artist Barnaby Evans, each year approximately one million visitors come to Providence to experience WaterFire making it one of the most popular tourist attractions in the State of Rhode Island. For more information about WaterFire Providence, please visit <http://waterfire.org>, <https://www.facebook.com/waterfireprovidence> and <http://igniteprovidence.com>.

About The Harvard Business School (HBS) Social Enterprise Initiative

The Social Enterprise Initiative at HBS acts as a catalyst for creating social value by serving as a focal point for the creativity and energy of its worldwide community. These efforts have manifested themselves in a number of areas. At HBS, these range from the participation of approximately 90 faculty members in social enterprise research and teaching to the creation of over 500 social enterprise cases and teaching notes by HBS faculty members. Courses that focus on social enterprise are embedded into the MBA curriculum and HBS Executive Education program including Strategic Partnership in Nonprofit Management (SPNM). For more information about The Harvard Business School (HBS) Social Enterprise Initiative please visit <http://www.hbs.edu/socialenterprise/>

About The Harvard Business School Association of South Eastern New England

HBSASENE is one of 108 Harvard Business School clubs and associations in 49 countries. The Association exists to promote educational and charitable activities, particularly among graduates of Harvard Business School residing in Southeastern Connecticut, Southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island. In 2002, HBSASENE started awarding scholarships for local nonprofit leaders to attend the Strategic Partnership in Nonprofit Management (SPNM) in 2002. Later, the Association created the F. Steele III and Patricia Blackall Scholarship Fund, to fund the scholarship. There are 469 HBS alumni in South Eastern New England. For more information about The Harvard Business School Association of South Eastern New England please contact Lisa Churchville - lgchurchville@gmail.com and 401-487-2009.