

M&C

MEETINGS AND CONVENTIONS

SPECIAL SECTION!

The Stella Awards
HONORING EXCELLENCE IN THE MEETINGS INDUSTRY

Read about the hotels, CVBs
and other suppliers that
planners rate the best
in the business

Cannabis & Meetings

INDUSTRY
FORECAST P. 8

10 HOT
NEW HOTELS P. 24

Changing state laws pose new
challenges for planners P. 16

- ATLANTIC CITY P. 109
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- LOS ANGELES P. 104
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The Stella Awards

HONORING EXCELLENCE IN THE MEETINGS INDUSTRY

RECOGNIZING THE BEST OF THE BEST

The results of the 2019 Stella Awards are in your hands! Congratulations to the 278 winners and finalists of the meetings industry's highest honor. The organizations showcased within these pages have demonstrated their commitment to helping meeting professionals pull off a flawless event, as determined by the people who know best: experienced meeting planners.

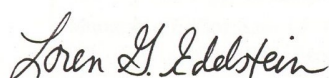
The Stella Awards, established by Northstar Meetings Group in 2017, recognize hotels, convention centers, conference centers, airlines, cruise lines, DMO/CVBs and DMCs that consistently deliver quality service and innovation to meeting and events professionals. Honors are awarded in 18 categories celebrating overall excellence, superb food and beverage, professionalism of staff, technology innovations, and other critical aspects of the meetings and event experience.

Finalists in each category are determined by industry professionals during an open voting period, while winners are selected by an expert panel of judges overseen by the editors of Northstar's leading brands, *Meetings & Conventions*, *Successful Meetings*, *Meeting News* and *Incentive*.

To be a Stella winner indicates that a provider's product is the best of the best, a shining star in a highly competitive marketplace. You can refer with confidence to the Stella Awards list when choosing services and locations for your upcoming meetings. Our honorees are standouts all, and you will be, too, when you partner with a Stella Award winner.

Enjoy this special section — and don't forget to nominate your favorite suppliers for a 2020 Stella Award now at www.stella-awards.com. You'll be helping your peers — and pleasing your supplier partners — by recognizing truly stellar service.

Thanks in advance!



Loren G. Edelstein
Vice President, Content Director
Northstar Meetings Group

2019 JUDGING PANEL

Betsy Bondurant, CMM, CTE
President - Bondurant Consulting

Terri Breining, CMP, CMM
President - Breining Group Inc.

Liz Caruso (King)
CEO - Liz King Events & IGNITE

Carmelina Manzella Deignan
Business Development Director
McVeigh Global Meetings and Events

Erin Dunstan
Vice President, Strategic Account
Management - Experient

Roberta A. Kravitz
Executive Director - International
Society for Magnetic Resonance in
Medicine (ISMRM)

Mike May, CMP, CITP, IP
President and Owner - Brightspot
Incentives & Events

Monique Rochard-Marine, CMM, CMP, CTSM, MBA
Senior Manager, Strategic Meetings
Management & Event Operations -
Cardiovascular Systems, Inc.

Anne Marie Rogers, CIS, CITP
Director of Meetings, Incentives, Events -
Direct Travel

Gary Schirmacher, CMP
Senior Vice President, Industry Presence &
Strategic Development - Experient

Linda Spelling
President - Buzz, Inc.

Brett Sterenson
President - Hotel Lobbyists

Shawna Suckow, CMP
Speaker and Author

Desi Whitney
Senior VP, Sourcing & Industry Relations -
HPN Global

HOTELS

2019



AWARDS

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BEST ON-SITE SUPPORT STAFF

NORTHEAST



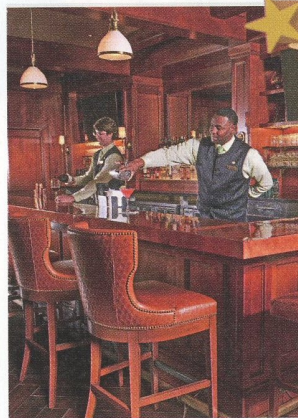
GOLD WINNER

SEAPORT HOTEL & WORLD TRADE CENTER

A client-solutions oriented partner, the Seaport Hotel & World Trade Center is an independent hotel with all on-site support staff located on property.

SILVER: Baltimore Marriott Waterfront
BRONZE: Foxfire

SOUTHWEST



GOLD WINNER

THE BROADMOOR

The Broadmoor strives to deliver an unrivaled meeting experience through exceptional service and the warm, gracious manner of its staff.

SILVER: Grand Hyatt Denver
BRONZE: AT&T Hotel and Conference Center

SOUTHEAST



GOLD WINNER

ROSEN SHINGLE CREEK

Associates at Rosen Shingle Creek are dedicated to providing world-class service and anticipating planner and guest needs.

SILVER: Fontainebleau Miami Beach
BRONZE: Casa Marina, A Waldorf Astoria Resort

FAR WEST



GOLD WINNER

THE RANCH 4.0 WESTLAKE VILLAGE

SILVER: Hyatt Regency Lake Washington at Seattle's Southport
BRONZE: Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa

FINALIST:
■ The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas

MIDWEST



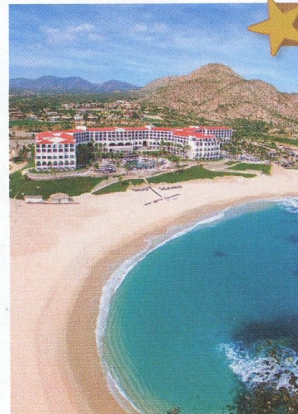
GOLD WINNER

CONRAD INDIANAPOLIS

SILVER: Trump International Hotel & Tower Chicago
BRONZE: French Lick Resort

FINALIST:
■ Grand Geneva Resort & Spa

INTERNATIONAL AND U.S. TERRITORIES



GOLD WINNER

HILTON LOS CABOS GOLF AND BEACH RESORT

The team at Hilton Los Cabos goes above and beyond with impactful service standards and excellence in training programs.

SILVER: Kimpton Seafire Resort + Spa