

# SUCCESSFUL<sup>®</sup>

## MEETINGS

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SuccessfulMeetings.com  
November/December 2019

NORTHSTAR

### 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 p34

10 CITIES ON THE RISE p18

HOTTEST IDEAS OF THE YEAR p14

# TOP 5 FOOD TRENDS

Mock meats and healthy, sustainable meals will dominate 2020 menus p6



LAS VEGAS  
FLORIDA  
LINCOLN, NEB.

# 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](http://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

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## BEST ON-SITE SUPPORT STAFF

### NORTHEAST



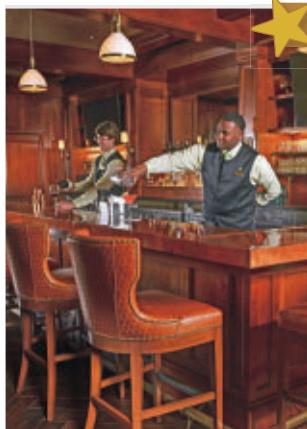
**GOLD WINNER**

#### 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