



News Release

Jim Kowitz

Ernst & Young LLP

+1 612 371 8301

jim.kowitz@ey.com

For Immediate Release

EY Announces Winners for the Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2019 Heartland Awards

EY builds on three decades of honoring unstoppable entrepreneurs in the Heartland

Minneapolis, Minnesota, June 28, 2019 – EY is pleased to announce the winners of the Entrepreneur Of The Year® Award in the Heartland. This group of unstoppable entrepreneurial leaders transforming our world was selected by an independent judging panel made up of previous award winners, leading CEOs, investors and other regional business leaders. The winners were unveiled at a special gala on June 27 at the Children's Theatre Company in Minneapolis.

“There are many successful entrepreneurs in this world, but to build something truly remarkable, you can't let anything stand in your way,” said Debra von Storch, EY Americas Entrepreneur Of The Year Program Director. “EY is proud to honor the 2019 winners who are inspiring innovation without limitation and fueling growth and prosperity by being truly unstoppable.”

The winners for the Entrepreneur Of The Year 2019 Heartland Awards include:

- Charles Kummeth, Bio-Techne (Minneapolis, Minnesota)
- Benjamin Bercaw, Caroline Bercaw, Isabel Bercaw and Kimberly Bercaw, Da Bomb LLC (Minneapolis, Minnesota)
- Carl Imo, Imo's Franchising, Inc./ Roma Grocery (St. Louis, Missouri)
- Timothy Herbert, Inspire Medical Systems, Inc. (Golden Valley, Minnesota)
- Alan Doan and Michael Mifsud, Missouri Star Quilt Co. (Hamilton, Missouri)
- Jeremy Segal, Proozy (Eagan, Minnesota)
- Shelly Ibach, Sleep Number (Minneapolis, Minnesota)
- Matthew Bruckel, Total Access Urgent Care (Ballwin, Missouri)
- Benjamin VandenWymelenberg and John Guenveur, WOODCHUCK USA (Minneapolis, Minnesota)

Since its founding in 1986, the program has expanded to recognize business leaders in more than 145 cities in more than 60 countries throughout the world.

Regional award winners are now eligible for consideration for the Entrepreneur Of The Year National Awards. Award winners in several national categories, as well as the Entrepreneur Of The Year National Overall Award winner, will be announced at the Entrepreneur Of The Year National Awards gala in Palm Springs, California, on November 16, 2019. The awards are the culminating event of the Strategic Growth Forum®, the nation's most prestigious gathering of high-growth, market-leading companies. The Entrepreneur Of The Year National Overall Award winner then moves on to compete for the EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year™ Award in Monaco in June 2020.

Sponsors

Founded and produced by Ernst & Young LLP, the Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards are nationally sponsored by SAP America and the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.

Local sponsors for the Heartland program include Padilla, PNC, Salo, Schulze School of Entrepreneurship and Twin Cities Business.

Company Boilerplate

About Entrepreneur Of The Year®

Entrepreneur Of The Year®, founded by EY, is the world's most prestigious business awards program for entrepreneurs. The program makes a difference through the way it encourages entrepreneurial activity among those with potential and recognizes the contribution of people who inspire others with their vision, leadership and achievement. As the first and only truly global awards program of its kind, Entrepreneur Of The Year celebrates those who are building and leading successful, growing and dynamic businesses, recognizing them through regional, national and global awards programs in more than 145 cities in more than 60 countries. ey.com/eoy

About EY's Growth Markets Network

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