

**Alumni Association's Honorary Alumni of the Year Honorees**  
*(presented in Chicago, Illinois)*

**2018 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Jerome F. "Jerry" Cataldo  
President & Chief Executive Officer  
Hostmark Hospitality Group

**2017 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Patrick Donelly  
General Manager  
Hyatt Regency Chicago

**2016 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Grant DePorter  
President & Owner  
Harry Caray's Restaurant Group

**2015 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Ron Vlasic, CHA  
Regional Vice President (Hotels)  
Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants

**2014 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Hasmukh P. (H.P) Rama  
Chairman of the Board/Chief Executive Officer  
JHM Hotels

**2013 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Randy Smith  
Chairman & Co-Founder  
Smith Travel Research (STR) Global

**2012 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Michael C. Gibbons  
President, Mainstreet Ventures

**2011 Honorary Alumni of the Year**

Andrew J.C. Cherng  
Founder and Chairman  
Panda Restaurant Group, Inc.

Peggy Tsiang Cherng  
Co-Chair  
Panda Restaurant Group, Inc.

**2010 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

James W. Chamberlain  
Senior Vice President & General Manager – Institutional Foodservice  
Ecolab, Inc.

**2009 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Dan Gordon  
Chief Executive Officer, Gordon Food Service, Inc.

**2008 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Robert J. Habeeb  
President and Chief Operating Officer  
First Hospitality Group

**2007 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Harvey Alpert  
President, Harvey Alpert & Company/Oakfield Farms, Inc

**2006 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Richard Melman  
Founder and Chairman  
Lettuce Entertain You Enterprises, Inc

**2005 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Anthony (Tony) G. Marshall, JD, CHA, CHE  
President  
The American Hotel & Lodging Association's Educational Institute

**2004 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Robert H. Nelson, CEC, CCE, CFBE, AAC  
Dr. Lewis J. and Mrs. Ruth E. Minor *Chef de Cuisine*  
*The School of Hospitality Business at Michigan State University*

**2003 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Michael L. Minor  
Retired Vice President, Nestlé Food Services

**2002 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Donald I. Smith  
Former Director, School of Hotel, Restaurant Institutional Management  
Michigan State University

**2001 Honorary Alumni of the Year**

William (Tiny) Zehnder, Jr. Chairman of the Board Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn Restaurant	Dorothy Zehnder Kitchen Manager Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn Restaurant
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**2000 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Richard M. Geerdes  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
National Automatic Merchandising Association

**1999 Honorary Alumna of the Year**

Theda L. Rudd  
President & Owner, David Rudd Enterprises

**1998 Honorary Alumni of the Year**

Fred Elias	Louis Elias
Founder	Founder
Elias Brothers Restaurants, Inc.	Elias Brothers Restaurants, Inc.

**1997 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Herman Cain  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
National Restaurant Association

**1996 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

John H. King, Jr.  
President & Chief Operating Officer  
HDS Services

**1995 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Michael D. Eisner  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  
Walt Disney Company

**1994 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Henri Landwirth  
Founder , “Give the Kids the World” Foundation

**1993 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

None

**1992 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Donald M. Coe  
President, Hiram Walker & Sons, Inc.

**1991 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Harris O. Machus  
Chair Emeritus, Harris O. Machus Enterprises, Inc.

**1990 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

Michel Roux  
President & Chief Executive Officer, Carillon Importers, Ltd.

**1989 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**

John R. Farquharson  
President, ARASERVE

**1988 Honorary Alumnus of the Year**  
Stephen Rushmore  
President, Hospitality Valuation Services, Inc.