

Hospitality Business
Spartan Champion Award Recipients

(as of January 2020)

2020 – James E. Burba (BA '77)

Co-Founder

Burba Hotel Network (BHN)

2018 – Marc J. Gordon (MBA '73), CHA, FMP

President & Chief Executive Officer

Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association

2018 – Dan W. Darrow (MBA '61)

President, Palm Hospitality Company

a subsidiary of The Walt Disney Company

2017 – John Belden (BA '85)

President and Chief Executive Officer

Davidson Hotels & Resorts

2014 – Ron Cichy (BA '72, MBA '77)

Director & Professor

The School of Hospitality Business

2013 – Philip J. Hickey (BA '77)

Chairman of the Board

National Restaurant Association

2012 – Ed Watkins

Executive Editor

Lodging Hospitality