Alumni Association’s Alumni of the Year Honorees
(presented in May in Chicago, Illinois)

2020 – Nomination postponed.

2019 – Nomination postponed.

2018 Alumna of the Year
Carol L. Campbell (BA ’98)
Managing Director of Customer Experience
Insight & Analytics, Delta Airlines

2017 Alumni of the Year
John M. Duffey (BA ’82) and Rebecca J. Duffey (BA ’82)
President and Chief Executive Officer, Six Flags Entertainment

2016 Alumnus of the Year
Peter J. Weien (BA ’81)
General Manager & Senior Vice President, Regional Operations
Gaylord Entertainment

2015 Alumnus of the Year
Billy Downs (BA ’88)
Special Events Director, Team World Vision

2014 Alumnus of the Year
Stuart Wolff (BA ’82)
Executive Vice President – Midwest, Acosta Sales & Marketing

2013 Alumnus of the Year
Steve Wagenheim (BA ’77)
President & Founder, Granite City Food & Brewery

2012 Alumna of the Year
Judith Zehnder Keller (BA ’67, MBA ’73)
President/Owner, Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn

2011 Alumnus of the Year
David C. George (BA ’79)
President, Longhorn Steakhouse Restaurants/Darden Restaurants

2010 Alumnus of the Year
Ken Weber (BA ’77)
President, Weber’s Inn & Restaurant
2009 Alumnus of the Year
Dan E. Burdakin (BA ’81)
President, Park Management Group

2008 Alumnus of the Year
Michael W. Murray (BA ’81)
Senior Vice President of Operations, Sage Hospitality Resources

2007 Alumnus of the Year
Richard D. Farrar (BA ’73)
Vice President, Owner & Franchise Services, Marriott International, Inc.

2006 Alumnus of the Year
Marc J. Gordon (MBA ’73)
President & Chief Executive Officer, Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association

2005 Alumni of the Year
Jerry L. Fournier (BA ’68)
Executive Vice President/Vice Chairperson of the Board
HDS Services

Robert A. Wills (BA ’70)
Executive Vice President of Operations
HDS Services

2004 Alumnus of the Year
H. Michael Rice (BA ’76)
Director of Auxiliary Services, Housing & Food Services Division of MSU

2003 Alumnus of the Year
Paul A. Smith (BA ’66)
Owner, The Hitching Post Inn Resort & Conference Center

2002
Distinguished 75th Anniversary Year Alumni in the Hospitality Industry, Food Service Industry, Lodging Industry, Hospitality Education, and Club Industry

2001 Alumnus of the Year
William A. Zehnder (BA ’71)
President, Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn Restaurant

2000 Alumna of the Year
Dawn M. Brogan (BA ’86)
Senior College Recruiter, Walt Disney World Company

1999 Alumnus of the Year
Dan W. Darrow, Jr. (MBA ’61)
President, Palm Hospitality Company

1998 Alumnus of the Year
Lou Weckstein (BA ’58)
Senior Vice President, Hotel Operations, Windsor Hospitality Group
1997 Alumnus of the Year
John A. Jordan (BA ’60)
General Manager, Cherokee Town & Country Club

1996 Alumna of the Year
Christine M. Hackem (BA ’77)
Regional Vice President, ARAMARK

1995 Alumnus of the Year
Michael H. Getto (BA ’56)
Senior Vice President, Friden Hotel Company

1994 Alumnus of the Year
Jerry A. McVety (BA ’67)
President, McVety & Associates

1993 Alumnus of the Year
Frank Arthur Banks (BA ’61, MBA ’62)
General Manager, RIHGA Royal Hotel

1992 Alumnus of the Year
Richard P. Kolasa (BA ’66)
General Manager, Skyline Country Club

1991 Alumnus of the Year
John R. Weeman, Jr. (MBA ’79)
Vice President of Development, Hilton Hotels Corporation

1990 Alumnus of the Year
Bennett (Ben) J. Schwartz (BA ’72)
Vice President & Partner, Harper Associates

1989 Alumnus of the Year
Robert C. Underwood (BA ’58)
Assistant Vice President, Housing and Food Services Division at MSU

1988 Alumnus of the Year
Paul Novak (BA ’73)
Group Vice President of Lodging Development, Marriott Corporation

1987 Alumnus of the Year
William J. Horine (BA ’51)
General Manager, Holiday Inn Mart Plaza

1986 Alumnus of the Year
Donald E. Jankura (BA ’51)
Senior Vice President, American Hotel & Motel Association

1983 Alumnus of the Year
Martin A. Kreger (BA ’58, MBA ‘68)
Executive Vice President of Operations, Machus Red Fox Restaurants
1982 Alumnus of the Year
Karl E. Eitel (BA ’51)  
President  
Broadmoor Hotel
John P. Hawes (BA ’73)  
Vice President  
Houlihan’s Old Place

1981 Alumnus of the Year
Richard E. Cregar (BA ’58)  
President, Cregar Enterprises

1980 Alumnus of the Year
Henry W. Fisher (BA ’48)  
General Partner and Vice President  
Registry Hotel
Charles M. LaTour (BA ’61)  
President, Leisure Services Division  
ARAMARK, Inc.

1979 Alumnus of the Year
Donald Greenaway (BA ’34)  
Assistant to Executive Vice President, Texas Restaurant Association

1978 Alumnus of the Year
Kenneth D. Hill (BA ’56)  
President, Gilbert/Robinson, Inc.

1977 Alumnus of the Year
John C. Brogan (BA ’55)  
Senior Vice President & Director of Operations  
Sheraton Corporation

1976 Alumnus of the Year
Leslie W. Scott (BA ’35)  
Vice President for Development, Michigan State University

1975 Alumnus of the Year
Robert F. Kershaw (BA ’42)  
Director  
L.A. Pittenger Student Center at Ball State University
Frederick C. Teich (BA ’51)  
Vice President and General Manager, Foods Division  
J.L. Hudson Company

1974 Alumnus of the Year
Michael E. Hurst (BA ’53)  
Owner/Operator  
New River Storehouse Restaurant
Jack C. Barksdale (BA ’50)  
President, Food and Lodging Division  
Holiday Inns

1973 Alumnus of the Year
Ernest E. Renaud (BA ’57)  
Executive Vice President, Jerrico, Inc.

1972 Alumnus of the Year
Raymond A. Dault (BA ’50)  
Associate Professor, Food Services & Lodging Indiana University
1971 Alumnus of the Year
Laurice (Bud) T. Hall
Manager, Pinehurst Country Club

1970 Alumnus of the Year
Stanley W. Brauer (BA ’49)
Owner, Brauer’s 1861 House

1969 Alumni of the Year
Frank Arthur Banks (BA ’61, MBA ’62)          Thomas J. Moncreiff (BA ’49)
St. Regis Sheraton Hotel

1968 Alumnus of the Year
Carl T. Mottek (BA ’51)
Senior Vice President, Southern Region, Hilton Hotels

1967 Alumnus of the Year
Jack L. Bedell (BA ’48)
President, Bedell’s Restaurant

1966 Alumnus of the Year
Emery G. Foster (BA ’33)
Director, Food Services, Michigan State University

1965 Alumnus of the Year
John L. Bolhuis (BA ’37)
President, Mary Avis, Inc.