

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S IHI HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT AWARD WINNERS AND FELLOWS HONOURED AT OUR ANNUAL FOUNDER'S BANQUET

On Thursday 28th November we welcomed over 500 industry colleagues to our annual IHI Founder's Banquet and Hospitality Management Awards where we celebrated the invaluable contributions of four new enrolled fellows and honoured excellence with exceptional winners across 13 categories.

Rewarded in recognition in their role, their capability, technical skills and their ability to demonstrate continuous professional development coupled with the energy and innovation they bring to their role, **THE 2019 WINNERS ARE...**

- **Hotel General Manager of the Year** – Alan Buckley, Jurys Inn Parnell Street (sponsored by Great Place to Work)
- **Employee of the Year** – Denise Meenaghan, The Radisson Blu Hotel & Spa Sligo (Sponsored by Bru Brewery)
- **Revenue Manager of the Year** – Declan McKenna, The Guinness Storehouse (Sponsored by Guestline)
- **Executive Head Chef of the Year** – Michelle O'Donnell, Masterchefs Hospitality (Sponsored by Failte Ireland)
- **Young Manager of the Year** – Keith O'Sullivan, Masterchefs Hospitality (Sponsored by StaffordLynch and S. Pellegrino)
- **Graduate of the Year** – Emer Priestley, Shannon College of Hotel Management (Sponsored by CLASSICdrinks)
- **HR Manager of the Year** – Kathleen Linehan, Trigon Hotels (Sponsored by Action Recruitment)
- **Catering Manager of the Year** – Sigitas Zubrickas, Sodexo Ireland (Sponsored by Unilever Food Solutions)
- **Finance Manager of the Year** – Brian Farrell, Clayton Hotel Burlington Road (Sponsored by the Irish Hospitality Institute)
- **Environmental & Facilities Manager of the Year** – Aine Martin, Hotel Doolin (Sponsored by Crystal Air / Mitsubishi Electric)
- **Sales & Marketing Manager of the Year** – Eveanna Ryan, Connacht Hospitality (Sponsored by netaffinity)

- **Food & Beverage Manager of the Year** – Alex Staskunas, Compass Group at Aviva Stadium (Sponsored by Broadline Group)
- **Deputy General Manager of the Year** – Diana Pyzio, Jurys Inn Cork (Sponsored by Maria Logan Recruitment)

Oonagh Cremins, President of the IHI, says: “A huge congratulations to all of our 2019 winners and our four new Fellows, Ronnie Counihane FIHI, Dominic Dillane FIHI, Stephen Hanna FIHI and Aaron Mansworth FIHI. We would like to extend a big thank you to our judges, category sponsors and partners who play their part in making the event the success it is, alongside our members, patrons and colleagues, who by their generous sponsorship, support and funding enable us to continue our work in providing a forum for all hospitality professionals to learn, peer network and to be recognised for their very valuable work.”

This year the awards attracted the highest number of applicants to-date across 18 counties, and the high attendance on the night reconfirms the prestigiousness of the awards. As an industry we focus on delivering a better guest satisfaction and we position our people at the centre of this, hence these employee centric awards propels a higher calibre of winner, someone who was nominated by a peer or an employer as being exceptional at their role, celebrating them as an individual, their ability, dedication and professionalism.

Alan Buckley from Jurys Inn, winner ‘General Manager of the Year’ says:

“I am thrilled to win this prestigious award and I’d like to extend a big thank you to my colleagues at Jurys Inn, the IHI and judges for this recognition. I love working within the hospitality industry and I look forward to the future and what this award brings to me personally and to our great team at Jurys Inn.”

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