



## Smart Meetings Announces 2016 Smart Stars Award Winners

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SAUSALITO, Calif., April 28, 2016 /PRNewswire/ -- [Smart Meetings](#), the leading media company and most trusted resource for meeting professionals, is excited to announce the winners of its 2016 Smart Stars Awards contest. The prestigious awards platform, now in its fifth year, celebrates the most popular properties, hotels, resorts, cruise lines and convention and conference centers across North America.

Ranked against thousands of beautiful properties, these exceptional venues have been hand selected as the best in their distinguished categories. Meeting professionals nominate and then vote to select winners in 25 inspiring categories. The [Smart Stars Awards](#) have come to serve as an essential resource for meeting planners who look to their peers to recommend leading venues and destinations to hold meetings and events.

"We are excited that the Smart Stars Awards have become such an industry benchmark and are honored to celebrate these exquisite properties," said Marin Bright, *Smart Meetings* founder and CEO. "Giving our readers the opportunity to vote for their favorite properties allows both meeting professionals and hotels and destinations to learn from each other and to grow the [meeting planning](#) community."

Smart Stars winners will be featured in the June edition of *Smart Meetings* print and digital magazines, reaching more than 65,000 meeting professionals. They also will be showcased [online](#) for one year.

### **2016 Smart Stars Winners**

#### **Best Eco/Green Hotel**

Hotel Terra Jackson Hole

Hyatt Regency Maui Resort & Spa

Portola Hotel & Spa at Monterey Bay

**Best Airport Hotel**

Grand Hyatt Dallas Fort Worth

Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport

San Mateo Marriott San Francisco Airport

**Best Attraction/Theme Park**

Monterey Bay Aquarium

Universal Orlando Resort

Walt Disney World Resort

**Best Ballroom**

Amway Grand Plaza Hotel

Omni Orlando Resort at Champions Gate

The Phoenician

**Best Beach Hotel**

Paradisus Punta Cana Resort

The Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club

The Westin Grand Cayman Seven Mile Beach

**Best Boutique/Lifestyle Hotel**

Hutton Hotel

Sanctuary on Camelback Mountain Resort

The Brazilian Court Hotel & Beach Club

The Nines, Portland

**Best City Hotel**

Hard Rock Hotel San Diego

JW Marriott Marquis Miami

Trump International Hotel & Tower Chicago

**Best Conference Center**

Hershey Resorts

Lied Lodge & Conference Center

The Woodlands Resort & Conference Center

**Best Convention Center**

Austin Convention Center

New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center

Oregon Convention Center

Pasadena Convention Center & Fairgrounds

**Best Convention Center Hotel**

Barceló Bávaro

Gaylord Opryland Hotel & Convention Center Nashville

MGM Grand Las Vegas

**Best Coastal Hotel**

Boston Harbor Hotel at Rowes Wharf

Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina

The Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay

**Best Cruise Line**

Hornblower Cruises & Events

Norwegian Cruise Lines

Royal Caribbean International

**Best Desert Hotel**

Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale at Troon North

JW Marriott Las Vegas Resort & Spa

La Quinta Resort & Club

**Best Executive Retreat**

Gateway Canyons

Salamander Resort & Spa

The Resort at Pedregal

**Best Family Friendly Hotel/Resort**

Arizona Grand Resort

Great Wolf Lodge Grapevine

The Westin Hilton Head Island Resort & Spa

**Best Gaming/Casino Hotel**

ARIA Resort & Casino

Tropicana Casino and Resort

Wynn Las Vegas and Encore Hotel

**Best Golf Resort**

Broadmoor Colorado Springs

JW Marriott Scottsdale Camelback Inn Resort & Spa

PGA National Resort & Spa

**Best Historic Hotel**

Omni La Costa Resort & Spa

The Westin St. Francis San Francisco on Union Square

The Wigwam

**Best Hotel Pool**

Grand Wailea Resort Hotel & Spa

Hyatt Regency Mission Bay Spa and Marina – San Diego

JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country Resort & Spa

**Best Hotel Spa**

Enchantment Resort and Mii amo Spa

The Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn & Spa

The Venetian Resort, Hotel & Casino

**Best Incentive Hotel**

Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Punta Cana

Nizuc Resort & Spa

Paradisus Playa del Carmen

The St. Regis Punta Mita Resort

**Best Island Resort**

Atlantis Paradise Island

El Conquistador Resort, A Waldorf Astoria Resort

Grand Hyatt Kauai

### **Best Mountain / Ski Hotel**

Montage Deer Valley

St. Regis Aspen Resort

The Ritz-Carlton, Bachelor Gulch

### **Best Outdoor Event Space**

Caesars Palace Las Vegas

Diplomat Resort & Spa, Florida

Terranea Resort

### **Best Special Event Venue**

L.A. Live

The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas

Museum of Glass

### **About Smart Meetings:**

Smart Meetings is the leading media company and the most trusted resource for meeting professionals in the [meetings industry](#). Providing best-in-class service, Smart Meetings publishes cutting-edge meetings content in print and digital magazines, hosts world-class [networking events](#), provides thought-leading and interactive webinars, offers a complimentary [site-selection service](#) and offers a myriad of digital resources.

Smart Meetings pioneered the widely-celebrated one-on-one hosted buyer program and has become the most effective media company to connect meeting professionals with premier hotels and destinations.

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