

Michigan Business & Professional Association Announces This Year's Best and Brightest Companies To Work For[®] in West Michigan

March 15, 2016 - Warren, Mich. — Every year companies throughout West Michigan compete to be named one of "<u>West Michigan's Best and Brightest Companies to Work For</u>[®]." Only companies that distinguish themselves as having the most innovative and thoughtful human resources approach can be bestowed this honor. These select companies will be honored by the <u>Michigan Business and Professional Association (MBPA)</u> on Thursday, May 5, 2016 at the JW Marriott in Grand Rapids.

The winning companies also compete for 13 elite awards, one granted for each category. Also, an overall winner that has excelled in all categories will be honored with a "Best of the Best Overall" award. The elite award winners will be revealed during the luncheon.

Also this year the Best and Brightest Companies to Work For[®] awards program has raised the bar with a new category. Winners will be pooled by the size of their company. Employers with 0-100 employees will be benchmarked together and will be classified as Small Business; 101-300 employees will be benchmarked together and will be classified as Medium Business; 301+ employees will be benchmarked together and will be classified as Large Business. All companies, no matter their size, can be a Best and Brightest Company to Work For[®] resulting in Better Business, Richer Lives and Stronger Communities.

An independent research firm evaluates each company's entry based on key measures in various categories. They include Compensation, Benefits and Employee Solutions; Employee Enrichment, Engagement and Retention; Employee Education and Development; Recruitment, Selection and Orientation; Employee Achievement and Recognition; Communication and Shared Vision; Diversity and Inclusion; Work-Life Balance; Community Initiatives; Strategic Company Performance and the Best of the Best Small Business, Medium Business and Large Business. (See following list for winners.)

The annual human resources symposium and awards program will begin with registration, networking and an exhibit gallery at 7:30 a.m. Educational programs begin at 8:30 a.m., followed by a non profit community project beginning at 10 a.m. The Luncheon and awards presentation begins at 11:30 a.m. and will adjourn at 1:30 p.m.

"Profitability and stability is essential for businesses in today's economic climate. Companies that recognize that their employees are the key to their success achieve staying power. Our 2016 winners create their human resource standards to ensure employee satisfaction and they set standards for every business to aspire toward," said Jennifer Kluge, President and CEO of MBPA. "We are proud to honor this year's winners."

West Michigan's Best and Brightest Companies to Work For[®] is sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Newsradio WOOD 1300 and 106.9 FM, Grand Rapids Business Journal, Davenport University, DTE Energy, Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC, Baudville, Staples, SpartanNash, The Executive Group, Elwood Staffing, Huron Capital, Northwood University, BASIC, Employment Group, and The Employers' Association.

Admission for the awards luncheon and symposium for members is \$140; non-members, \$160. Tables for 10 are also available for \$1,400 for members and \$1,600 for non-members. Recognition as a Table Sponsor with 10 tickets is \$1,800. If you are interested in attending the conference, contact the MBPA at 866-321-1822 or visit <u>www.101bestandbrightest.com</u>.

The Best and Brightest Companies to Work For[®] is a program of the Michigan Business and Professional Association that provides the business community with the opportunity to gain recognition, showcase their best practices and demonstrate why they are an ideal place for employees to work. This national program celebrates those companies that are making better business, creating richer lives and building a stronger community as a whole. It is presented annually in several markets including Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Detroit, Houston, Milwaukee, San Diego, San Francisco Bay Area, and Nationally. Nominations are now being accepted. Visit <u>www.101bestandbrightest.com</u> to obtain an application.

The Michigan Business and Professional Association boasts a statewide sphere of influence that no other organization of its kind can claim, leveraging a depth of programs and community initiatives that positively impact more than 150,000 businesses. Visit them online at <u>www.michbusiness.org</u>.

Michigan Business and Professional Association 101 Best and Brightest Companies to Work For (888) 277-6464 * www.101bestandbrightest.com

The 2016 West Michigan's Best And Brightest Companies To Work For[®] Winners

A Program of the Michigan Business and Professional Association

Large Business 301+ Employees

Advia Credit Union AmeriFirst Home Mortgage BDO USA, LLP Bell's Brewerv Inc. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan **Borgess Health** Comcast Flexfab Hastings Mutual Insurance Company Holland Hospital Hope College Lake Michigan Credit Union Life EMS Ambulance Macatawa Bank MSU Federal Credit Union Nucraft Furniture Orthopaedic Associates of Michigan Parker Hannifin Pneumatic Division Porter Hills **Rockford Construction** SpartanNash Sunset Retirement Communities & Services The Kendall Group Zeigler Auto Group

Medium Business 101-300 Employees

Applied Imaging Baudville, Inc Berends Hendricks Stuit Insurance Agency, Inc. Buist Electric Butterball Farms, Inc. Comfort Research Consumers Credit Union Crowe Horwath LLP Crown Motors Custer Elzinga & Volkers Construction Professionals Flexco

Goodwill Industries of Greater Grand Rapids, Inc. Haviland Enterprises, Inc. Hub International Kent Companies. Inc. Mel Trotter Ministries Mercantile Bank of Michigan Michigan Office Solutions **OMNI** Community Credit Union Option 1 Credit Union OST (Open Systems Technologies) Paragon D&E Plante Moran Progressive AE Rehmann Schupan & Sons, Inc. SEI. Inc. Suburban Inns The Campbell Group Wesco Inc.

Small Business 1-100 Employees

123Net 44North a.j. Veneklasen, Inc. Acoustics By Design, Inc. Aerotek Allied Business Services Andy J. Egan Company Baker Holtz, CPAs and Advisors Barnes & Thornburg LLP Beene Garter LLP BizStream Broadmoor Motor Sales C/D/H Coldwell Banker - AJS Schmidt CompHealth Allied Medical Staffing CompleteSource, Inc. CSM Group Dan Vos Construction Company, Inc. **DFCU** Financial **DK** Security

Dominion Systems Easter Seals Michigan Experis Express Employment Professionals Fleis & VandenBrink Engineering, Inc. **GNS** America Grand Rapids Community Foundation Grand Rapids Label Company Greenleaf Trust Hastings City Bank HNI Risk Services Honigman **HUMANeX** Hungerford Nichols CPAs + Advisors **ITS** Partners Kalamazoo Community Foundation KSS ENTERPRISES Lakewood Construction Lambert, Edwards & Associates Midstate Security Company LLC Mill Steel Company Nichols Professional Benefits Services, Inc. Regal Financial Group, LLC Revel Seaman's Mechanical SecurAlarm Systems, INC Service Professor Soils & Structures Southwest Michigan First Springthrough Consulting Inc. Stahlin Enclosures TowerPinkster Triangle Associates, Inc. Trillium Staffing Solutions Trivalent Group U.S. Staffing Agency, LLC Willis Law Worksighted WSI Yeo & Yeo CPAs & Business Consultants