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# Press Release

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## **OHIO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (OEDA) PRESENTS 2017 ANNUAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

COLUMBUS, OH, OCTOBER 19, 2017: The Ohio Economic Development Association (OEDA) presented its Annual Excellence Awards at its 2017 Annual Summit, held at the Columbus Renaissance Downtown.

The Ohio Economic Development Association's Annual Excellence Awards program recognizes the achievements of individuals and organizations throughout Ohio in the areas of economic and workforce development.

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Annual Excellence Award Recognition was presented to the following recipients. Videos to highlight the award winning entries were also produced. Videos, as well as the full awards presentation, may be viewed at

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/wiw556tu80ftrqI/AAAGWe34jsoZLuH00tbRJQsXa?dl=0>.

### **Best Project**

*The Best Project Award recognizes outstanding and innovative projects in economic and business development that retain or generate jobs and investment.*

- **Winner - Topre America Corporation New Facility Site Selection - Community Improvement Corporation of Springfield-Clark County, Ohio**
- Runner Up – Court and Walnut Project – Cincinnati Department of Community & Economic Development
- Runner Up – ITW Main Street Redevelopment Project – Troy Development Council

### **Excellence in Economic Development Marketing – Small Community (under 50,000 pop.)**

*The Economic Development Marketing Award recognizes successful marketing/marketing campaigns.*

- **Winner – Piqua Placemaking Initiative – City of Piqua**
- Runner Up – Gallia County Aerial Marketing Video – Gallia County Economic Development
- Runner Up – Sharonville Northern Lights District Brand Campaign – City of Sharonville/Northern Lights District
- Runner Up – Grow Ashland Marketing Campaign – Ashland Area Economic Development, Inc.

### **Excellence in Economic Development Marketing – Medium Community (50,000 - 150,000 pop.)**

*The Economic Development Marketing Award recognizes successful marketing/marketing campaigns.*

- **Winner – City of You Campaign – Youngstown State University**
- Runner Up – Realtor Tour 2016 & 2017 – City of Hamilton & Greater Hamilton Chamber of Commerce

### **Excellence in Economic Development Marketing – Large Community (150,000+ pop. or multi-jurisdictional campaign)**

*The Economic Development Marketing Award recognizes successful marketing/marketing campaigns.*

- **Winner – Ohio River Sites – Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth**
- Runner Up – Darin Buelow/Deloitte Study and Event – The Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority
- Runner Up – South Afton Commerce Park – Clermont County Department of Economic Development

### **Excellence in Economic Development Innovation**

*The Economic Development Innovation Award recognizes unique approaches to any aspect of economic development and recognizes a person or organization that has developed innovative practices and programs.*

- **Winner – Pipeline H2O – The Hamilton Mill**
- Runner Up – Darana Hybrid – City of Hamilton Economic Development
- Runner Up – Unlocking the Tri-State Region-A Regional FDI Symposium – Cincinnati Department of Community & Economic Development

### **Excellence in Workforce Development Innovation**

*The Workforce Development Innovation Award recognizes unique approaches to any aspect of workforce development and recognizes a person and/or organization that has developed innovative practices and programs. The strategy (ies) should provide direction, guidance, and motivation to Ohio's workforce and business community.*

- **Winner – Beacon of Hope – Nehemiah Manufacturing**
- Runner Up – Kokosing: Building Ohio's Future Construction Workforce Through Education, Exposure, and Experience – Kokosing, Inc.
- Runner Up – WorkReady Lucas County and WorkReady Manufacturing – Lucas County Department of Planning & Development

### **Excellence in Volunteerism**

*This award recognizes exceptional volunteer individuals who have assisted in successful economic development efforts in Ohio.*

- **Winner** – Richard Thompson, The Clinton County Port Authority & Clinton County, Ohio
- Runner Up – Sanford Lubin, Northwest Ohio's Economic Development Groups, including LEDO's, NORED & RGP

### **Rookie of the Year**

*The Rookie of the Year award recognizes an individual who has been an Economic Development Professional within Ohio for two years or less. The purpose of the award is to identify someone who has "hit the ground running" and made extraordinary contributions to local or State workforce and economic development in his/her career.*

- **Winner** – Lindsey Florea, Cincinnati Department of Community & Economic Development
- Runner Up – Cierra Clymer, REDI Cincinnati

**The Ohio Economic Development Association's mission is: *Working together to advance Ohio's economy by Advocating, Training, Networking, and Workforce Development.* The OEDA supports efforts by state, regional and local governments and other organizations to strengthen the economic climate in Ohio, foster employment growth and expand economic opportunities for Ohio's citizens. For more information about OEDA, please visit [www.ohioeda.com](http://www.ohioeda.com).**

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