FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Scottsdale Area Chamber of Commerce announces Twelve Finalists for the prestigious 34th Annual Sterling Awards

Scottsdale, Arizona (August 29, 2019) – The Scottsdale Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the 2019 Sterling Awards finalists, recognizing local companies that have demonstrated excellence, innovation and community stewardship. Over the years we have honored our city's outstanding corporate neighbors and brightest rising stars.

Doreen Reinke, Scottsdale Chamber Board Chair commented, "We are proud to bring the Sterling Awards into its 34th year celebrating businesses in Scottsdale. The Sterling Awards is one the Chamber's most time-honored signature events recognizing the people and organizations who have demonstrated excellence, innovation and community stewardship making Scottsdale a great community and workplace."

The 2019 Sterling honorees will be revealed at a luncheon on Friday, November 15th, at the Embassy Suites Resort in Scottsdale. Corporate sponsor tables are \$1,500 and corporate sponsor half-tables are \$800. Individual "early bird" tickets may be purchased for \$85. For Sponsorship or registration information contact Cheri' Valentino at 480-355-2708 or cvalentino@scottsdalechamber.com. www.scottsdalechamber.com.

"The Sterling Awards recognize the great accomplishments of businesses in Scottsdale," said Mark Stanton president & CEO of the Scottsdale Chamber. "The honorees represent innovation, success and the highest standards of business practice excellence," he said.

More than 25 volunteers participated as judges in the juried competition, itself a major commitment. Divided among the four Sterling categories (Big Business, Small Business, Micro Business and Non-Profit) the judges work individually to score each applicant within their assigned category. The judges visit each finalist company and interview key personnel. A remarkable video featuring each finalist will be produced by Pro One Media and revealed at the luncheon prior to announcing the honorees. Cheri' Valentino, Chamber Vice President, said, "Recognizing the significant accomplishments of the twelve finalists and the tremendous support of the Sponsors is one of our most impactful activities at the Chamber. We greatly appreciate the business leaders and companies who participate, and the many volunteers dedicated to the process."

2019 Sterling Awards Sponsors: APS, Banner Behavioral Health, COX Business, Nationwide Insurance Co., Prestige Cleaners, SRP, Merestone, and Peter Jordan Photography.

<u>MICRO BUSINESS</u> (1-5 Employees) - **Sponsored by Prestige Cleaners**Recognizes an emerging business exhibiting success through innovation, creativity and collaboration

10 to 1 Public Relations

7320 E. Butherus Drive, Suite 205 Scottsdale, Arizona 85260 (480) 789-0743 https://10to1pr.com/

Their mission is to help their clients establish and protect their positive image and reputation by recognizing their goals, strategizing how to achieve desired outcomes, and energizing implementation to achieve success. We value our team more than the client's checkbook. This allows us to take a strategic, long-term approach and requires our clients to do this same. As such, it's our goal to generate consistent results for our clients, thus creating less daily stress and more consistency for the company. This allows us to remain stable even during an economic downturn when, often, marketing and PR firms struggle financially.

Classic Cooking Academy

10411 East McDowell Mountain Ranch Scottsdale, Arizona 85255 (480) 502-0177

http://ccacademy.edu/

Classic Cooking Academy vision is to become a stalwart institution committed to essential culinary education. With that in mind, Classic Cooking mission is to provide affordable and quality education, developing well-rounded culinary enthusiasts in both theory and technique of cuisine, offer specialized training based on modern technology and methods, which include health, nutrition, sustainability, food science, and current trends and to teach traditional and contemporary concepts of product usage, dietary foundations, and skills on culinary topics.

Green Bin, LLC.

2618 W 1st St, Ste 1 Tempe, Arizona 85281 (609) 954-1396

https://www.rentgreenbin.com/

Green Bin's mission is to lessen the environmental impact of moving and be a major contributor to decreasing the negative environmental impacts that moving leaves on our planet by offering a zero-waste solution of reusable cost-effective moving boxes. Each Green Bin is reused 400+ times, are fully recycled at the end of their life. Packing paper is made of 100% post-consumer recycled material. The Bins are sanitized with a non-toxic and biodegradable cleaner between use, reducing the risk of encountering contaminates such as bed bugs and pet dander. They also support the support the community through the integration of charitable organizations and give back programs.

SMALL BUSINESS (6-99 employees) - Sponsored by Cox Business

Recognizes a small company demonstrating innovation, quality, professionalism and commitment to community.

Casago

15475 N. Greenway-Hayden Loop Scottsdale, Arizona 85260 (602) 404-2982

https://casago.com/

Casago is a thriving property management company, based in Scottsdale, with short-term vacation rentals and long-term corporate housing. Casago manages the vacation homes and corporate housing for the owners and provides local staff to welcome guests, make them comfortable and take care of the properties. The 20-year-old company has 15 employees in Scottsdale and more than 300 employees in North America. It also has 2,320 properties and has served more than 3.2 million guests in the United States and Mexico.

TraVek, Inc.

15575 N. 83rd Way, Suite A4 Scottsdale, Arizona 85260 (480) 367-1171

https://www.travek.com/

TraVek is a design-build residential remodeling firm, specializing in the remodeling and building of kitchens, baths, guest homes, casitas, additions and handyman services. TraVek services clients all over the metro-Phoenix area and surrounding areas and seeks to assist the community create dream spaces, aging in place spaces, as well as the opportunity to bring families closer together through additions, mother-in-law suites and guest homes.

Windom Security Strategies Today

3260 N. Hayden Rd, Suite 210 Scottsdale, Arizona 85251 (480) 338-7814

https://www.windomsecurity.com/

Windom Security is a locally owned company with our leadership team and staff comprised of 89% veteran or former law enforcement providing our assignments with the necessary experience and public service mentality proven to be the difference between providing security services and providing *comprehensive* security solutions and protection. Windom Security provides services to numerous markets such as schools/universities, commercial buildings, multihousing/HOA communities, houses of worship, hospitality industry, and critical infrastructure.

BIG BUSINESS (100+ Employees) - Sponsored by Nationwide Insurance Co.

Recognizes a large company making a significant impact on the lives of its employees and the economic fabric of the community.

Hotel Valley Ho

6850 E Main St Scottsdale, AZ 85251 (480) 624-5461

https://www.hotelvalleyho.com/

Hotel Valley Ho is a lifestyle urban resort and spa celebrating the spirit of mid-century style and sophistication in a unique boutique hotel. They aim to create memories one experience at a time through passionate service, a unique environment, and a fantastic experience for all guests – both locals and travelers. They also work to be a valued partner in the Downtown Scottsdale business scene and philanthropic community.

Plexus

9145 E. Pima Center Parkway Scottsdale, Arizona 85258 (480) 789-0743

http://www.plexusworldwide.com

Plexus Worldwide helps people transform their lives with science-based health and wellness products and a home-based entrepreneurial opportunity. It is one of the world's 30 largest direct-selling companies with more than 400 employees in Scottsdale and hundreds of thousands of global Ambassadors, independent business owners. Plexus has 20 products with an emphasis on prebiotics for gut health and weight loss. This Scottsdale-based company repeatedly ranks as one of the best places to work in Arizona and the direct selling industry.

Wells Fargo & Company

(480) 391-6386

https://www.wellsfargo.com/

Wells Fargo & Company is a multinational financial services company and the worlds 4th largest bank by market capitalization and the 4th largest bank by assets in the United States. Their 5 values are what's right for customers, people as a competitive advantage, ethics, diversity and inclusion, and leadership. They support community in the areas of sustainable home ownership, affordable housing, disaster relief and building, education, military, and veterans, financial education, and the environment.

NON-PROFIT - Sponsored by APS

Recognizes a charitable organization contributing to the social, cultural, educational well-being of its constituents.

Phoenix Herpetological Sanctuary

28011 N. 78th Street Scottsdale, Arizona 85266 (480) 513-4377

https://www.phoenixherp.com/

The Phoenix Herpetological Sanctuary is internationally known reptile sanctuary that rescues, accepts and houses approximately 1,000 reptiles (many of which are endangered), and provides community service, environmental advocacy, conservation and safety training to police, fire, utility, animal control and corporate security. They assist in preserving endangered species and maintains the largest anti-venom bank in Arizona. PHS is the only facility of its kind in Arizona, largest in the U.S., devoted to the preservation of reptiles native to our desert and other earth environments. It rescues/receives reptiles from both the wild and the pet trade.

Harvest Compassion Center/Mitchell Swaback Charities Inc.

4744 E Thunderbird Rd #9 Phoenix, Arizona 85032 (602) 788-2444

https://harvestcompassioncenter.org/donate/

The Mitchell Swaback Charities Inc. operating as Harvest Compassion Centers, is a unique food bank designed to serve their guests like a local mini-mart and clothing boutique where guests can shop with the help of their volunteer personal shoppers by their side. Their clients can choose their desired food items, hygiene products, baby needs, and household items off of the stocked shelves as well as reach for fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy items, and frozen foods. The HCC's one-stop-shop approach allows families to not abuse the HCC's resources and provides a safe environment where relationships are strengthened between volunteers and guests and where everyone is treated with dignity and respect.

Scottsdale Arts/ Scottsdale Cultural Council

7380 East Second Street Scottsdale, Arizona 85251 (480) 874-4601

https://scottsdalearts.org/

Scottsdale Arts (SA) is a multidisciplinary arts non-profit serving the community of Scottsdale and the Valley. It is the largest arts organization in the State, with an annual budget of over \$13M and 200 full-time and part-time employees. SA has a longstanding and close relationship with the city of Scottsdale, managing its cultural assets and events as well as its beautiful Civic Center campus. Comprised of the Center for the Performing Arts (SCPA), Museum of Contemporary Art (SMoCA), Scottsdale Public Art (SPA) and Scottsdale Arts Learning & Innovation (SALI), SA is a complex organization, making art & culture accessible to a diverse range of constituents. Administered by a core of shared services, SA also produces the iconic Scottsdale ArtsFest and the destination event Canal Convergence.

The Scottsdale Area Chamber of Commerce is the largest business organization in Scottsdale, providing advocacy, education, networking, leadership and exposure opportunities to our member businesses. The Chamber actively works to maintain Scottsdale's high quality of life and create an environment where business innovation, excellence and entrepreneurship can thrive. Serving ALL of Scottsdale since 1947!