Category: Young Professional Awards

Description: The IAAPA Regional Young Professional Award honors members who demonstrate a strong commitment to the attractions industry through leadership, teamwork, integrity, and ongoing development of their knowledge and skills in this dynamic field. This award recognizes professionals who actively support IAAPA's mission to grow and nurture the amusement park and attractions industry.

There must be a minimum of three (3) nominations per region for the region to be awarded.

Criteria:

1. Meets IAAPA's definition of young professional: Individuals 35 or younger (i.e. they may not turn 36 in the calendar year where the winners are being selected (not when the award is presented).
2. Must exemplify IAAPA's core values of passion, respect, transparency, courage/innovation, and inclusive/value collaboration
3. Employed full-time by a member company or as an individual IAAPA member.
4. Held a lead (people or project management) position for one (1) or more years in their organization.
5. Have held two (2) or more IAAPA volunteer positions. Examples of volunteer roles with IAAPA include:
    a. Board of Directors, Committee, or Task Force chair/member
    b. Speaking at an IAAPA event in person/virtual
    c. Writing an article/feature/book for an IAAPA publication
    d. Directly organizing/supporting IAAPA functions
    e. IAAPA Mentor
    f. IAAPA Show Ambassador

Application Materials:

- Preparedness to answer questions about the nominee's volunteer contributions, work history and exemplification of IAAPA's Core values
- Provide two (2) – four (4) letters of recommendation that confirm the individual's contributions including examples of teamwork, integrity, and leadership. It is recommended (but not required) that references come from senior management of a member company and/or other IAAPA members. Recommendation etters should be no longer than one (1) page in length.
- Detailed description of the achievements and contributions that qualify the nominee for this award.