

# Event Planner of the Year NOMINEES 2022

THIS AWARD RECOGNIZES AN EXEMPLARY EVENT PLANNER IN EITHER THE RESTAURANT OR LODGING INDUSTRY. THE EVENT PLANNERS NOMINATED GO ABOVE AND BEYOND THEIR JOB DESCRIPTIONS TO ENSURE THE CLIENT HAS THE BEST EXPERIENCE POSSIBLE.

## **ALISON COOK** EVENT MANAGER, BOTTLEWORKS HOTEL

Alison has grown tremendously in her Event Manager role here at Bottleworks Hotel. She has become a great detailer to each specific event she plans so that the client gets exactly what they want executed the day of. Alison goes above and beyond for her clients that we have seen an increase in repeat business over the last 8 months. The clients do not hold back when complimenting the team for their event and how well it has gone and we thank Alison for planning it. No matter the battles that are thrown towards her, she is always there to come out of it positive and ready to take it on. The Bottleworks Hotel is lucky to have a great event planner like Alison because not only does her planning help the team execute it, but she also brings great business to the department!

## **CHRISTINA DORTON** SALES MANAGER, HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON

Christina is the best employee that you could ask for. She is very attentive to the needs of the hotel and the interests of the staff. She goes out of her way to plan employee Birthdays or any hotel events that celebrate our employees. Our employees love her because she goes out of her way to help show the appreciation that we have for the staff. Christina plays a huge part in why our property has been voted as one of the best properties to work for in our company portfolio. I certainly don't know where our property would be without her kind spirited acts of kindness.

## **CASEY HANSEL** DIR. OF SALES, SCHAHET HOTELS

Casey Hansel is my nomination for Event Planner of the year. I personally cannot express how grateful I am to have this woman on our team! She has been exceptional since day one. She is great with the clients, guests, and associates. She transferred from a limited-service hotel into a full service seamlessly. And not only does she book the groups, meeting space and corporate travel she also has gone above and beyond in making sure her clients are served and taken care of when they are on property holding their meetings, social events, etc. Her clients appreciate her responsiveness and attention to detail. She was mentioned on TripAdvisor from a 5 day in house convention "The sales director, Casey, was extremely helpful and responsive to our concerns. The hotel is clean and comfortable and a great place to hold a business or social gathering." She has also had clients send her flowers and gifts to show their appreciation for all her hard work and dedication. And she does all of this without missing a beat when it comes to her primary duties as the Director of Sales for the property. Casey is well respected by her peers at the hotel as well as her guests and clients. She is not afraid to step in and assist where needed. She is here to serve the guests and she does it all with integrity and excitement! She also joins committees like the SHOP Program (Schahet Hotels Outreach Program) where she plans community service projects for the hotels throughout the year. She also volunteers at her hotel to help plan the monthly RISE Appreciation Party where they have a lunch, theme, games and show appreciation to all of the staff for their hard work. Casey deserves to be the Event Planner of the Year and recognized for all her hard work and dedication to the hotel, associates, and clients

Stars of the Industry 2022



# Event Planner of the Year

## NOMINEES 2022 (CONTINUED)

### **NICCI SCAFFIDI** SENIOR WEDDING DIRECTOR, NAMELESS CATERING

Originally with a back ground in medical sales, Nicci has fully embodied what it means to show Hoosier Hospitality. Since joining the team in 2021, Nicci has made a clear and significant impact to Nameless Catering, particularly when it comes to weddings.

With her direction and leadership, the wedding sales for Nameless Catering have surpassed over \$1 million for this current year and over 250 weddings and counting on the books for 2023.

Nicci is a dedicated and detail-oriented leader. She is the first one to step in and assist anyone on the team, whether that's working with a client or in the kitchen. We highly recommend her as a candidate for Event Planner of the Year!

### **LINDSEY WORD** PRIVATE EVENTS MANAGER, HARRY & IZZY'S DOWNTOWN

Lindsey started her career as a host in 2011 and soon transitioned into lead host. She flawlessly lead the host team and graciously welcomed and accommodated as many guests as possible. Think we're overbooked? Think again, Lindsey can always figure it out. During her time as Lead Host she also worked under our Former Event Planner Lori Randazzo. Lori taught Lindsey the ropes of being an event planner and all the details it entailed. Lori and her family eventually moved back to Phoenix and it was a no-brainer to promote Lindsey to Event Planner for Harry and Izzy's Circle Centre.

Lindsey spends her days booking contracts for our private rooms and ensuring their special event is perfect, but it doesn't end there. She always takes the time to follow up on previous bookings to ensure that Harry & Izzy's always gets the opportunity to be a part of their special event. During this entire process Lindsey is in touch with important clients from all over the United States. The relationships formed are invaluable not only to Lindsey and our establishment, but also for the City of Indianapolis. Lindsey looks at our company and restaurant as stewards of the City. She takes pride in taking care of our guests and making sure they had the best experience possible.

### **AMANDA ZIMANSKI** EVENTS MANAGER, MARRIOTT INDY PLACE

Amanda joined the event management team in the beginning of the year and quite literally hit the ground running. We found out the hard way that having a new EM start the week of College Football Playoffs was not a good idea but Amanda didn't let the craziness deter her. She finished training quick and began taking events almost immediately. We don't want to jinx anything but her ESS scores are incredible and clients do not have enough good things to say about her. Amanda has taken on every and all groups we throw at her with ease, efficiency and huge success rates. Her background knowledge with Group Housing for the select service helped her easily transition into managing events and we are so excited to see her continue to take on events.

