

On Friday evening, May 15th, the Saint Louis Apartment Association (SLAA) hosted its premier event of the year — the 2026 Rising Star Awards Banquet — at The Factory in Chesterfield, Missouri. This year’s celebration was especially meaningful as SLAA continues its year-long commemoration of its 50th Anniversary. Chartered in 1976, the Saint Louis Apartment Association was established to advance the general welfare of the multifamily housing industry throughout the Greater St. Louis Metropolitan Area.

Now in its second year at The Factory, the Rising Star Awards Banquet once again reached record-breaking attendance numbers. Nearly 800 multifamily housing professionals gathered for the event, including property managers, maintenance teams, supplier partners, owners, investors, corporate support staff, and guests from across the region. The emcee for the evening, Todd Thomas (aka “That One Guy” from the Cardinals games), brought humor, wit, and great energy to the evening’s festivities.

As a special treat to continue SLAA’s 50th anniversary celebration, guests stayed for an After Party at The Factory complete with the Count of Monte Carlo live 8-piece band, late night snacks featuring Imo’s Pizza and White Castle, and plenty of dancing!

The annual Rising Star Awards provide SLAA members with the opportunity to recognize outstanding team members and celebrate excellence within the multifamily housing industry. This year, SLAA received an impressive 173 nominations across 39 award categories, highlighting the remarkable talent, dedication, and leadership found throughout the association’s membership.

#YourSLAA #SLAARisingStar2026

Congratulations to the following 2026 Rising Star Award Winners –

Leasing Professional of the Year (1-200 units)

Lauren Coleman

1400 Russell, Propper Asset Management

Assistant Manager of the Year (201-300 units)

Alicia Vizenor

One Cardinal Way, Cordish Living

Leasing Professional of the Year (201-300 units)

Shannon Smith

One Cardinal Way, Cordish Living

Assistant Manager of the Year (301+ units)

Augustine Brooks

Bennington Heights, Mills Properties

Leasing Professional of the Year (301+ units)

Andrew Allen

Pavilion Apartments, Mills Properties

Behind the Scenes Professional of the Year

Melissa Krepsik

Village Green Management

Assistant Manager of the Year (1-200 units)

Hannah Ogando

Cantwell Crossing and Northbrooke Commons,
2B Residential

Best Clubhouse

One Cardinal Way

Cordish Living

Best Digital Curb Appeal

NEO Vantage Point

Mills Properties

Best Model / Display Apartment

Grand Central at the Junction

Timberland Partners

Groundsperson of the Year

Todd Taylor

Willowbend Apartments, Timberland Partners

Maintenance Supervisor of the Year (1-100 units)

Robert Ingrassia

Villages of Aragon, Village Green Management

Maintenance Supervisor of the Year (101-200 units)

Daniel Graham

Lofts at Forest Park, The Medve Group

Maintenance Supervisor of the Year (201-250 units)

Kris Engelmeyer

The Residences at Tesson Ridge,
Propper Asset Management

Maintenance Supervisor of the Year (251-300 units)

Kevin Biggs

River Crossing Apartments, Edward Rose and Sons

Maintenance Supervisor of the Year (301+ units)

Brent Walker

Whisper Hollow Apartments,
Banner Property Management

Maintenance Team of the Year

Metro on 5th

StoneCreek Communities

Maintenance Technician of the Year (1-200 units)

Chris Rushing

The Solstice, Timberland Partners

Maintenance Technician of the Year (201-300 units)

Kaden Ingamells

River Crossing Apartments, Edward Rose and Sons

Maintenance Technician of the Year (301+ units)

Brandon Whitener-Hodge

Sunbrook Apartments, CAPREIT

Property Manager of the Year (1-200 units)

Jenna Hellmuth

Residences at Forest Park & York House, 2B Residential

Property Manager of the Year (201-250 units)

Mandy Bono

Citrine Apartments, Mills Properties

Property Manager of the Year (251-300 units)

Neha Tribble

Brentwood Place & Stanford Place,
Mills Properties

Property Manager of the Year (301+ units)

Jackie Olczak

Timber Club, 2B Residential

Outstanding Community Involvement

BluSky Restoration Contractors

Property of the Year (Post 2020, Rent Group A)

NEO Vantage Point

Mills Properties

Property of the Year (Post 2020, Rent Group B)

The Flats & Terraces at

Wildhorse Village

2B Residential

Property of the Year (Built 2000-2020, 201+ units)

Parkway Lakeside Apartments

Timberland Partners

Property of the Year (Pre-2000, 1-200 units)

Beau Jardin

Mills Properties

Property of the Year (Pre-2000, 201+ units)

Waterford West

Mills Properties

Regional Maintenance / Capital Project Supervisor

Denny Dawes

Mills Properties

Regional / Area Manager of the Year (1-1500 units)

Whitney Collins

Timberland Partners

Regional / Area Manager of the Year (1501+ units)

Jenn Robinson

StoneCreek Communities

Resident Engagement Award

Avenue64 Team

Avenue5 Residential

Resident Service Coordinator / Door Attendant

Alonzo Harris

The View at Forest Park, Mills Properties

Rising Star of the Year

Kelly Ulrich

Reserve at Fountainview, Terra West

Supplier Partner of the Year

Beckner Painting & Contracting

Management Company of the Year (1-1500 units)

Village Green Management

Management Company of the Year (1501+ units)

StoneCreek Communities

ViP stands for “Volunteers are Irreplaceable People”. Each year, one Property Management Professional and one Supplier Partner are selected to receive the ViP Award. Congratulations to this year’s ViP Award recipients - **Eileen Drayton with 2B Residential** and **Tyler Mazdra with Woodard Cleaning & Restoration**. Thank you for all that you do for SLAA and for our industry!

SLAA also recognized three members of the Product & Service Council who have fulfilled their term limits. We appreciate their dedication to SLAA and their leadership on the Council!

Grant Augenstein, Sams & EverReady Services, 2016-2026

Robert Brake, Brake Landscaping & Lawncare, 2017-2026

Kevin Laune, Watchtower Security, 2020-2026

The Saint Louis Apartment Association would like to thank all **2026 Rising Star** sponsors whose support and generosity made this year's awards banquet possible.

Superstar Sponsors

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BluSky Restoration Contractors

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First Onsite Property Restoration HD Supply

i3 Broadband

InterSolutions Staffing

Karascope

Mills Properties

Propper Asset Management

Propper Landscapes Services

Rose Paving

Sams & EverReady Services

StoneCreek Communities

Timberland Partners

United Carpet

Woodard Cleaning & Restoration

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Two Men and a Junk Truck

And, finally, thank you to the **2026 Rising Star Committee** for all their hard work and hours of preparation to make this event a success.

Allison Brockman
Propper Asset Management

Jamie Bryan
Avenue5 Residential

Jessica Donaldson
Mills Properties

Lindsay Harvey
InterSolutions Staffing

Jenn Heuer, Committee Chair
InterSolutions Staffing

Angie Hickey
BluSky Restoration Contractors

Angelina Kovalenko
i3 Broadband

Stephanie Larkin
Village Green Management

Chrissy Leisure
2B Residential

Jennifer McMaster
Apartments.com

Dena Payne
2B Residential

Nicole Schaffner
Propper Asset Management

Natalie Williams
Timberland Partners

Event photos and videos will be posted soon. Be sure to follow the Saint Louis Apartment Association on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#). Visit [SLAA's website](#) for upcoming events.

