



# News Release

5<sup>th</sup> Annual NACE ISES Chicago Excellence Awards *Presented by the Chicago Chapters of ISES and NACE*

#### 2006 NICE AWARDS COMMITTEE

##### CO-CHAIRS

**Sandra Sobczak, CERP**  
Chicago Party Rental  
Co-Chair ISES

**Ryan Verhulst, CMP**  
Chicago Marriott O'Hare  
Co-Chair NACE

##### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Frank Andonoplas, MBC**  
Frank Event Design

**Nancy Brockway**  
Hall's Rental

**Jamie Carlson**  
House of Harley-Davidson

**Barbara Lee Cohen, CMP**  
PRODUCTIONS USA, Inc.

**Ellen Harte**  
Tasty Catering

**Lanie Hartman**  
BBJ Linens

**Rick Madeja**  
Karl's Event Rental

**Lori Manby**  
The Meetinghouse Companies, Inc.

**Gwendolyn McNutt, CSEP**  
Comcast Cable

**Pamela Patsavas, CSEP**  
Distinctive Event Productions

**Tony Sansone**  
Eclectic Cuisine

**Jack Scafile**  
CORT Event Furnishings

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 24, 2006

**Contact:** Gwendolyn Y. McNutt, CSEP  
ISES Chicago VP of Membership  
Gwendolyn\_Mcnutt@cable.comcast.com  
(847) 585-6731

## CHICAGO CHAPTERS OF NACE AND ISES ANNOUNCE 2006 AWARD WINNERS AT 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NICE AWARDS

**CHICAGO, IL, February 24, 2006** – The Chicago Chapters of NACE (National Association of Catering Executives) and ISES (International Special Events Society) today announced the winners of the 2006 NICE Awards (NACE ISES Chicago Excellence Awards), the joint awards ceremony to recognize and celebrate excellence and achievement in the Chicago area special events industry.

To be eligible for NICE Awards consideration, events are judged on merit in accordance with established criteria based on their ability to meet their objectives, event originality and creativity, integration of event elements, event execution, collateral materials, event quality and attention to detail, as well as the event concept and challenges that were met and/or overcome. Event submission categories for the 2006 awards included event planning, catering, entertainment, creative services and support services for events which occurred between November 1, 2004 and October 31, 2005.

"The NICE Awards is a snapshot of the previous year in the Chicago event industry," says NICE Awards Co-Chair Ryan Verhulst of Chicago Marriott O'Hare. "In addition, it gives the best of the best in NACE and ISES the chance to shine in front of their peers," adds Verhulst.

- more -



The 2006 NICE Awards winners (NACE ISES Chicago Excellence Awards) are:

**Best Entertainment over \$15,000** – Total Event Resources of Inverness, IL

**Best Floral Design** – The Meetinghouse Companies of Elmhurst, IL

**Best Decorative Linens** – BBJ Linen, Skokie, IL

**Best Theme Décor under \$20,000** – Renaissance Chicago Hotel of Chicago, IL

**Best Theme Décor over \$50,000** – The Meetinghouse Companies of Elmhurst, IL

**Best Use of Tenting** – Chicago Party Rental of McCook, IL

**Best Use of Rental Equipment** – The Meetinghouse Companies of Elmhurst, IL

**Best Fair/Festival** – Karl's Event Rental of Oak Creek, WI

**Best Picnic** – Chartwells of Chicago, IL

**Best Logistical Achievement for an Event** – Total Event Resources of Inverness, IL

**Best Off-Premise Catered Event under \$10,000** – Tasty Catering of Elk Grove Village, IL

**Best On-Premise Catered Event under \$10,000** – Chicago Marriott O'Hare, Chicago, IL

**Best On-Premise Catered Event \$10,000-\$25,000** – Chartwells of Chicago, IL

**Best On-Premise Catered Event over \$25,000** – Renaissance Chicago Hotel, Chicago, IL

**Best Fund Raiser/Non-Profit Event under \$25,000** – Gloria Nelson Event Design, Winneconne, IL

**Best Fund Raiser/Non-Profit Event \$25,000-\$75,000** – The Meetinghouse Companies of Elmhurst, IL

**Best Social Event under \$25,000** – Party Partner of Chicago, IL

**Best Social Event \$25,000-\$75,000** – House of Harley Davidson of Milwaukee, WI

**Best Social Event over \$75,000** – Big City Events of Chicago, IL

**Best Wedding under \$25,000** – Frank Event Design of Chicago, IL

**Best Wedding \$25,000-\$75,000** – Sarah Schnell of Chicago, IL

**Best Wedding over \$75,000** – Frank Event Design of Chicago, IL

**Best Corporate Event under \$25,000** – Tasty Catering of Elk Grove Village, IL

**Best Corporate Event under \$25,000-\$75,000** – Total Event Resources of Inverness, IL

**Best Corporate Event over \$75,000** – Total Event Resources of Inverness, IL

**Best NICE Team Event** – Frank Event Design of Chicago, IL, Chicago Party Rental of McCook, IL, BBJ Linen of Skokie, IL, Eclectic Cuisine & Hospitality Group of Oak Brook, Distinctive Event Productions of Oak Brook, IL and Artists Events and Entertainment of Chicago, IL

**2006 NICE Lifetime Achievement Award** – Kathy Miller of Total Event Resources of Inverness, IL

###

#### International Special Events Society - ISES

Founded in 1990, the Chicago Chapter of the International Special Events Society (ISES) strives to elevate the Chicago area special events industry through education and networking, with an emphasis on ethics and professionalism. Membership joins professionals from a variety of special event disciplines including journalists, venues, caterers, meeting and event planners, decorators, audio-visual technicians, party and convention coordinators, educators, photographers, hotel sales managers and many more.

#### National Association of Catering Executives - NACE

The Chicago Chapter of the National Association of Catering Executives (NACE) provides catering and event professionals with superior education, networking, and resources to enhance their career success and deliver excellence to their clients.

