

# The Carmel Pine Cone

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## Foundation named 'Business of the Year,' others honored at Quail Lodge gala

By MARY SCHLEY

IT MAY not be a business, but The Carmel Foundation, a nonprofit serving members age 55 and older, was named Business of the Year at the Carmel Chamber of Commerce's Awards of Excellence gala at Quail Lodge Wednesday night. From a group of 15 nominees, chamber members voted for the foundation, which provides low-cost meals and housing, classes, activities, field trips and numerous other services for its members, to receive the honor.

Winners in the 18 individual categories, which the chamber board decided to redefine this year in order to make the awards more competitive, were:

- Accommodation — Small: Mission Ranch
- Accommodation — Large: Cypress Inn
- Art/Music/Performance: Monterey Peninsula Ballet Theatre
- Community Service Organization — Small: Carmel Youth Center
- Community Service Organization — Large: AIM for Mental Health
- Food & Beverage — Small: SUR at the Barnyard

- Food & Beverage — Large: La Bicyclette Restaurant
- Health & Wellness: Carmel Valley Athletic Club
- Professional Services — Small: Adam Jeselnick Architect
- Professional Services — Large: Monterey Regional Airport
- Real Estate — Small: KW Coastal Estates/Team Beesley
- Real Estate — Large: Alain Pinel
- Retail — Small: The Cheese Shop
- Retail — Large: The Crossroads
- Legal & Financial — Small: Noland, Hamerly, Etienne & Hoss
- Legal & Financial — Large: Fenton & Keller
- Tourism — Small: Carmel Food Tours
- Tourism — Large: Concours on the Avenue.

In addition, jeweler Kirkor Kocek was named this year's "Community Champion."

The gala is a major fundraiser for the nonprofit business group and provided an opportunity to thank outgoing board members, after which Monterey County Superior Court Judge Marla Anderson swore in the new ones.



PHOTO/MICHAEL TROUTMAN, DMT IMAGING

Carmel Foundation President/CEO Holly Zoller (far left) brought key employees onstage with her to accept the Business of the Year award at a chamber of commerce gala Wednesday.