



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SGMP Recognizes Top Young Professionals Under 37 During Government Meeting Professionals Month

ALEXANDRIA, VA—October 16, 2018—The Society of Government Meeting Professionals (SGMP) announced the honorees of the Top Young Professionals Under 37. The campaign recognizes emerging talent among government meeting professionals. Sixteen professionals from across the United States were selected for the honor and were nominated by their peers. The recognition comes during the Society’s inaugural Government Meeting Professionals Month, which is celebrated in October.

“A new generation of professionals is joining the government meetings workforce, but many of them are not as connected to professional organizations as previous generations. We want to identify and cultivate talent early in a professional’s career,” said SGMP National President Michelle Milligan, CGMP. “The government meetings landscape is very different today from even just a decade ago. It’s critical now more than ever that professionals working in the field are up to speed on rules and regulations, budgetary constraints, ethical practice, and the critical personal connections they need in the industry to make impactful government meetings standard best practice.”

The professionals recognized include the following:

LaTwanda Broughton, CGMP
Project Manager, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Atlanta, Ga.

Tammy Chavez
Sales Manager, Avatar Hotel
Santa Clara, Calif.

Kayla Counts, CGMP, CMP
Event Manager, Tennessee Valley Authority
Nashville, Tenn.

Terra Crane, CTA
Convention Sales Manager, Columbia Convention & Visitors Bureau
Columbia, Mo.

La’Zendra B. Danforth
Director of Events, College of Pharmacy, University of Florida

SGMP Recognizes Top Young Professionals (Cont.)

Gainesville, Fla.

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Julian Huerta

Sales Manager, Embassy Suites by Hilton – Denver Downtown Convention Center
Denver, Colo.

Robert Lewis, II

Sales and Catering Manager, Doubletree Suites by Hilton - Huntsville South
Huntsville, Ala.

Andrew Marks

Tourism Sales Coordinator, Office of Economic Development & Tourism, City of Lynchburg, Va.
Lynchburg, Va.

Holly Miller, CGMP

Consumer Fraud Outreach Coordinator, Colorado Attorney General's Office
Denver, Colo.

Lindsey Rohrbaugh

Group & International Sales, Visit Fort Collins
Fort Collins, Colo.

Stephanie Scharfenburg

Executive Meeting Manager, Embassy Suites Loveland – Hotel, Spa & Conference Center
Loveland, Co.

Brittany Tebben, CGMP

Convention Sales Manager – West Region, Visit Denver
Denver, Colo.

LeAnna Toups-Bennett, CGMP

Administrative Coordinator, Louisiana Department of Education
Baton Rouge, La.

Jennifer Wynn

Senior Sales Account Manager, Birmingham Marriott Hotel
Birmingham, Ala.

Anita Yearwood, CGMP, CMP

Special Events Manager, Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, Va.

Stacy Yerby

Michigan Meetings Manager, Detroit Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau
Detroit, Mich.

Each of the honorees will receive special recognition online and in SGMP's biannual magazine *Government Connections*. Nominations were received from 10 of the 21 chapters across the country, including Central Florida, Georgia Peach, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri Capital, Old Dominion, Rocket City Alabama, Rocky Mountain, Sacramento, and Tennessee.

SGMP Recognizes Top Young Professionals (Cont.)

SGMP is dedicated to enhancing and promoting the expertise of government meeting professionals through education, resources and networking.

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The Society of Government Meeting Professionals (SGMP) was founded in 1981 and is the only national organization in the United States dedicated exclusively to individuals who plan and execute government meetings. We deliver our membership value of education, resources and networking to 2,000 plus members in 21 chapters across the country. Our mission is to enhance and promote the expertise of government meeting professionals. For more information, please visit www.sgmp.org.