

Contact: Robin Spensieri   
Email: [rspensieri@virginiarealtors.org](mailto:rspensieri@virginiarealtors.org)Telephone: 404.433.6015

**Virginia REALTORS® Announces 2019 Award Winners**

RICHMOND, Va. (September 23, 2019) –Virginia REALTORS® celebrates their 2019 awardees. The state’s largest trade association conducted its annual awards ceremony in conjunction with Momentum 2019: The Virginia REALTORS® Annual Convention on Wednesday, September 18, at the Williamsburg Lodge Hotel. The ceremony celebrated excellence in various areas of real estate, along with notable community contributions. These awardees were selected by a committee of peers as standouts among an association of 35,000 members.

* **The Virginia REALTOR® of the Year Award** is presented to professionals who have made proven contributions to the real estate industry through both personal and professional achievement and outstanding volunteerism. It is the highest accolade bestowed to a REALTOR® member.
* The 2019 Virginia REALTOR® of the Year is **Katrina Smith of the Blue Ridge Association of REALTORS®**.
* **The Virginia REALTORS® Hall of Fame Award** honors Virginia REALTORS® who have made extraordinary and distinguished contributions to the real estate profession and markets in Virginia over a period of twenty-five years or more. Induction to the Hall of Fame is considered a principal career honor for Virginia REALTORS®.
* The 2019 Virginia REALTORS® Hall of Fame awardee is **Kit Hale of the Roanoke Valley Association of REALTORS®**.
* Each year, the **Code of Ethics Leadership Award** is given to a Virginia REALTOR® who exhibits knowledge of the REALTOR® Code of Ethics, arbitration and/or professional standards, and who shares such expertise unequivocally.
* This year’s awardee is **Sallye Trobaugh of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Association of REALTORS®**.
* Each year, the **George Rink Outstanding Real Estate Educator Award** recognizes the Virginia REALTOR® educator who has made the most significant contributions to and exemplified leadership and service in real estate education at either the state or local level.
* This year’s awardee is **Linda Martin of the Greater Piedmont REALTORS®.**
* Each year, the **Virginia Manager of the Year Award** is presented to a broker/manager, recognizing individual achievement in management innovation, community service, and both personal and associate education.
* This year’s awardee is **Pat Widhalm of the Charlottesville Area Association of REALTORS®**.
* Each year, the **Ann Swearingen Property Manager of the Year Award** is presented to the industry’s highest achieving association members engaged in the field of residential property management.
* This year’s awardee is **Al Patel of the Virginia Peninsula Association of REALTORS®**.
* Each year, the **Virginia Certified Residential Specialist of the Year Award** is given to the Virginia Certified Residential Specialist chapter member who has made significant achievements to his/her local board, state association, community activities, and CRS chapter activities as a member.
* This year’s awardee is **Pat Sury of the Charlottesville Area Association of REALTORS®**
* Each year, the **Women’s Council of REALTORS® State Member of the Year Award** is presented to a REALTOR® who exemplifies leadership within local and state associations and who also contributes to the broader community.
* This year’s awardee is **Teunsha “Sha” Williams-Hinnant of the Fredericksburg Area Association of REALTORS®**.
* Each year, the **Virginia Housing Development Authority Service to Virginia Award** is presented to the Virginia REALTOR® who has made the most significant difference in promoting affordable homeownership to first-time homebuyers during the year or whose life work merits recognition and celebration of this issue.
* This year’s VHDA Service to Virginia awardee is **John O’Reilly of the Richmond Association of REALTORS®**.

For headshots of award winners, please contact Robin Spensieri at rspensieri@virginiarealtors.org.

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**About Virginia REALTORS®**

Virginia REALTORS® (previously known as the Virginia Association of REALTORS®) is the largest professional trade association in Virginia, representing 35,000 REALTORS® engaged in the residential and commercial real estate business. Virginia REALTORS® serves as an advocate for homeownership and homeowners and represents the interests of property owners in the Commonwealth of Virginia. For more information, visit [www.virginiarealtors.org](http://www.virginiarealtors.org) or follow Virginia REALTORS® on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/REALTORSVirginia/), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/REALTORS_VA), and [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/31801).

NOTE: The term REALTOR® is a registered collective membership mark that identifies a real estate professional who is a member of the National Association of REALTORS® and subscribes to its strict Code of Ethics. Top of Form