

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **2018 Illinois Family Business of the Year Award Winners Announced** *Awardees to be Honored at November 15 Gala in Chicago*

**CHICAGO, September 10, 2018** – The Family Business Center at Loyola University Chicago's Quinlan School of Business is pleased to announce the winners of its 25th Annual Illinois Family Business of the Year Awards.

Presented in six categories, the awards recognize companies with exceptional commitment to family and family business. The center continues to recognize deserving family businesses and to celebrate the family enterprise as it has for more than two decades.

An awards gala honoring the winners and finalists, as well as the tradition, dedication, and success of the family enterprise, will take place on Thursday, November 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the Four Seasons Hotel Chicago.

The 2018 Illinois Family Business of the Year Awardees are:

- **Small Family Business of the Year Winner:** Cushing  
**Finalists:** A. Perry Homes, Batavia Enterprises, Daprato Rigali Studios Inc.
- **Medium Family Business of the Year Winner:** Devon Bank  
**Finalists:** Digital Check Corp., FONA International, West Side Tractor
- **Large Family Business of the Year Winner:** Elkay  
**Finalists:** Carl Buddig & Co., Ed Napleton Dealership Group, Handi-Foil
- **Community Service Award Winner:** Stenstrom Companies  
**Finalists:** Devon Bank, Ed Napleton Dealership Group, Elkay, Fellowes Brands, Rabine Group, Two Brothers Brewing
- **Dean's Award Winner:** Nielsen Massey

The awards drew nominations in six categories: Small (companies with fewer than 50 employees), Medium (50 to 250), Large (more than 250), Community Service, the Dean's Award, and the Century Award. Those recognized have demonstrated positive family/business linkage, multigenerational family business involvement, contributions to industry and community, and innovative business practices and strategies.

The center's inspiration for the awards program comes from its numerous nominees: successful and dedicated family businesses whose generosity, innovation, and community involvement have left powerful and lasting impressions.

“The Loyola Family Business Center has been recognizing the best family businesses in the state for 27 years and shining a spotlight on the importance of family business to our economy,” said Anne Smart, director of the Loyola Family Business Center. “These businesses deserve to be recognized for their job creation, long-term, sustainable economic value, and commitment to the vitality of our economy and communities. On behalf of our generous sponsor organizations and Loyola University Chicago, we wish to congratulate this year's winning businesses *and* the families who lead them.”

This year's sponsors include BMO Harris Bank, Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP, Wipfli LLP, William Blair, MassMutual, Hoopis Financial Group, MB Financial Bank, Oxford Financial Group, Perkins Coie, U.S. Bank Private Wealth Management, Abbot Downing, Crain's Chicago Business, and Eli's Cheesecake.

For more information on the Illinois Family Business of the Year Awards and to purchase tickets for the gala, please visit [luc.edu/leadershiphub/centers/familybusiness/](http://luc.edu/leadershiphub/centers/familybusiness/).

### **About Family Business Center at Loyola University Chicago's Quinlan School of Business**

The Family Business Center at Loyola has been supporting its member businesses and families, their employees and communities for 27 years. In 2016, the Family Business Center joined four other centers of excellence as part of the Loyola Business Leadership Hub. The Loyola Business Leadership Hub connects businesses, nonprofits, and government agencies to the experts, research, and resources in the Quinlan School of Business, Loyola University Chicago and the global Jesuit network of colleges and universities.

As part of the Loyola University Chicago's Quinlan School of Business, the center upholds the Jesuit tradition of excellence in education, focusing on responsible leadership and development of the whole person. For more information, visit [LUC.edu/fbc](http://LUC.edu/fbc), or follow us on Twitter via [@LoyolaFamilyBiz](https://twitter.com/LoyolaFamilyBiz).

### **About Loyola University Chicago**

Founded in 1870, Loyola University Chicago is one of the nation's largest Jesuit, Catholic universities, with nearly 16,000 students. Nearly 10,000 undergraduates hailing from all 50 states and 82 countries call Loyola home. The University has four campuses: three in the greater Chicago area and one in Rome, Italy, as well as course locations in Beijing, China; Saigon-Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Vernon Hills, Illinois (Cuneo Mansion and Gardens); and a Retreat and Ecology Campus in Woodstock, Illinois. The University features 10 schools and colleges, including the Quinlan School of Business, Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing, Stritch School of Medicine, College of Arts and Sciences, School of Communication, School of Continuing and Professional Studies, School of Education, School of Law, School of Social Work, and Graduate School. Consistently ranked a top national university by *U.S. News & World Report*, Loyola is also among a select group of universities recognized for community service and engagement by prestigious national organizations like the Carnegie Foundation and the Corporation for National

and Community Service. To learn more about Loyola, visit [LUC.edu](http://LUC.edu), “like” us at [Facebook.com/LoyolaChicago](https://www.facebook.com/LoyolaChicago), or follow us on Twitter via [@LoyolaChicago](https://twitter.com/LoyolaChicago) or [@LoyolaNewsroom](https://twitter.com/LoyolaNewsroom).

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