

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Metro Milwaukee Society for Human Resource Management (MM SHRM) Wins Pinnacle Awards for Exceptional HR Program

On Friday, November 17, a room filled with more than 1,000 HR professionals from around the country gathered to learn the winners of the prestigious Pinnacle Awards. Created in 1991, the Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) Pinnacle Award is the highest achievement a SHRM-affiliated local chapter or state council can earn, honoring leadership and excellence in human resources. The award recognizes the innovative ways SHRM chapters and state councils make their workplaces and communities better.

With over 600 SHRM chapters and councils nationally, each year there are 23 nominated finalists with 12 winners recognized for programs that advance the HR profession, serve HR professionals, or enhance the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) community. Among the Pinnacle Award winners was Metro Milwaukee SHRM in recognition of its HR Executive Insights program held earlier this year.

The HR Executive Insights event was held in March and featured the Chief Human Resources Officers from several of the area's largest employers including Ryan Festerling (Kohls), Jo Eisenhart (Northwestern Mutual), Amy Rislov (Aurora Healthcare), Tom Slaski (GMR Marketing), and Kelly Renz (Novo Group). An audience of more than 200 HR professionals gathered at the Kohl's Corporate Center in Menomonee Falls to listen to each of the panelists describe their career path, provide insights into professional development, and discuss the most pressing HR and business issues facing their organizations today.

"It's an honor to be recognized with this prestigious award," said Metro Milwaukee SHRM President Kristen Chang, who accepted the award on behalf of the chapter. Chang, who is a Lead Recruiter for Baird added, "Our goal was never to win an award, but to provide another high-value program for our HR members. It's great to be recognized for a program that served two purposes – to help provide insights on professional development and also to learn about the critical connection between HR and overall corporate strategy."

A committee of volunteers envisioned and began working on the program almost a year prior to the event. During that time, the program was sharpened and refined. When the time was right, key HR leaders were invited to participate.

"The response from the senior-level HR professionals we asked was overwhelming. These are busy people with huge responsibilities, but each responded enthusiastically to this opportunity to share their insights with their professional peers, Chang said. "The advice and insights from that day were invaluable."

Going forward, the plan is to hold a similar HR executive program every other year and plans have already begun for the program in 2019. To further their connection with HR leaders, MM SHRM is launching a HR Executive Roundtable group to provide a forum for our local senior HR leaders to come together and learn from one another. "Our initial group of panelists have been supportive well beyond

their participation in the March event. They continue to work with us to bring more of their peers to the table to advance HR careers and strategize on key business issues,” explained Chang.

The Pinnacle Awards are presented annually as part of the SHRM Volunteer Leader Summit held annually in Washington, DC. Metro Milwaukee SHRM earned a crystal award and a check for \$1,000.00 by winning.

About Metro Milwaukee SHRM

Since 1925, Metro Milwaukee SHRM has been serving human resource management professionals throughout Milwaukee and Southeastern Wisconsin. Today, the association represents nearly 800 members from more than 500 Milwaukee-area companies, placing it among the largest affiliate chapters of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM). The association affiliated with SHRM National in 1957.

The mission of Metro Milwaukee SHRM is to “Serve the professional and advance the profession.” To serve the professional, it provides education, training, communications, networking, and more. To advance the profession, it connects with the larger business community, promote the work of the HR professional, and advocate on behalf of our members.

About the Society for Human Resource Management

The Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) is the world’s largest HR professional society, representing 285,000 members in more than 165 countries. For nearly seven decades, the Society has been the leading provider of resources serving the needs of HR professionals and advancing the practice of human resource management. SHRM has more than 575 affiliated chapters within the United States and subsidiary offices in China, India and United Arab Emirates.

More Information

For more information about Metro Milwaukee SHRM, the Pinnacle Award, or the HR Executive Insight program, contact Jeffrey J Beiriger, Executive Director, at jeff@assocmgmtservices.com or 414/331-2059.

Photos/Captions



Metro Milwaukee SHRM leaders accept the prestigious Pinnacle Award from the Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) during the SHRM Volunteer Leader Summit, November 16-18, 2017.

Left to Right: Jane Wucherer, MM SHRM Staff; Kristen Chang, President; Kristy Kintop, Treasurer; Sheree Yates, Secretary; Robert Von Der Linn, President-Elect; and Joanne Krueger, Past President of Metro Milwaukee SHRM and Current President of Wisconsin State Council of SHRM.



The HR Executive Insight program was held March 7, 2017 at the Kohl's Corporate Conference Center in Menomonee Falls and featured an audience of more than 200 HR leaders from the Metro Milwaukee area. HR leaders who served as panelists include (L to R) Ryan Festerling, Kohl's; Jo Eisenhart, Northwestern Mutual; Amy Rislov, Aurora Health Care; Tom Slaski, GMR Marketing, and Kelly Renz, Novo Group. Host Kristen Chang, MM SHRM Chapter President and Lead Recruiter, Baird and panel moderator, Rena Somersan, Newport Group are pictured at the far right.