



2018 Award Winner

News Release

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For Immediate Release

EY Announces Werner G. Nistler, Jr. of Touchmark named Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2018 Award Winner Lifetime Entrepreneur in the Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND, Ore., June 19, 2018 – EY has announced that Founder and Chairman Werner G. Nistler, Jr. of Touchmark, which builds and operates full-service retirement communities, received the Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2018 Award in the Lifetime Entrepreneur category in the Pacific Northwest. The award recognizes entrepreneurs who are excelling in areas such as innovation, financial performance and personal commitment to their businesses and communities. Nistler was selected by an independent panel of judges, and the award was presented at a special gala event at the Westin Seattle on June 15, 2018.

“I am honored to receive this recognition, and I would like to share it with the team members of Touchmark, who I have worked with so closely over the past several decades,” says Nistler. “Over my career, I have developed a number of businesses, and the one closest to my heart is Touchmark, because it is dedicated to providing the best in hospitality and services to older adults.”

Nistler has served as Chairman of Touchmark since he founded the company in 1980. For 35 years, he also served as CEO. Touchmark provides Gold Standard hospitality in full-service retirement communities, which it develops, builds and operates in the U.S. and Canada. Currently, Touchmark’s 13 communities are located in nine states and Alberta, Canada, including the new Touchmark in the West Hills, which opened this month in Portland.

Since 1986, EY has honored entrepreneurs whose ingenuity, spirit of innovation and discipline have driven their companies’ success, transformed their industries and made a positive impact on their communities. Now in its 32nd year, the program has honored the inspirational leadership of such entrepreneurs as:

- Howard Schultz of Starbucks Corporation
- Pierre Omidyar of eBay, Inc.
- Jodi Berg of Vitamix
- Robert Unanue of Goya Foods
- Reid Hoffman and Jeff Weiner of LinkedIn
- Andreas Bechtolsheim and Jayshree Ullal of Arista Networks
- Hamdi Ulukaya of Chobani
- James Park of Fitbit
- J.W. “Bill” Marriott, Jr. of Marriott International, Inc.
- Lonnie Moulder and Mary Lynne Hedley, PhD, of TESARO, Inc.

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As a Pacific Northwest award winner, Nistler is now eligible for consideration for the Entrepreneur Of The Year 2018 National Awards. Award winners in several national categories, as well as the Entrepreneur Of The Year National Overall Award winner, will be announced at the Entrepreneur Of The Year National Awards gala in Palm Springs, California, on November 10, 2018. The awards are the culminating event of the Strategic Growth Forum®, the nation's most prestigious gathering of high-growth, market-leading companies.

Sponsors

Founded and produced by EY, the Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards are nationally sponsored in the U.S. by SAP America, the Kauffman Foundation and Merrill Corporation.

In the Pacific Northwest Region, sponsors also include Woodruff Sawyer.

About Touchmark

Founded in 1980, Touchmark is an award-winning company providing Gold Standard hospitality in full-service retirement communities in the U.S. and Canada. The company not only develops and builds its communities but also operates them. Currently, Touchmark's 13 communities are located in nine states and Alberta, Canada. A new community— Touchmark in the West Hills — just opened in Portland, Oregon. Touchmark at The Ranch in Prescott, Arizona, will be completed later this year. More information is available at Touchmark.com. Nistler also formed and operates the Touchmark Foundation (TouchmarkFoundation.org), an all-volunteer, not-for-profit 501(c)3 public charity. Created to enhance the well-being of seniors, the foundation addresses key issues affecting the lives of seniors. Charitable activities include granting nursing scholarships to students and future teachers, providing food boxes to families in need during the holidays and funding cutting-edge research, such as smart home technology.

About Entrepreneur Of The Year®

Entrepreneur Of The Year®, founded by EY, is the world's most prestigious business awards program for entrepreneurs, chosen from an independent panel of judges including entrepreneurs and prominent leaders from business, finance, and the local community. The program makes a difference through the way it encourages entrepreneurial activity among those with potential and recognizes the contribution of people who inspire others with their vision, leadership and achievement. As the first and only truly global awards program of its kind, Entrepreneur Of The Year celebrates those who are building and leading successful, growing and dynamic businesses, recognizing them through regional, national and global awards programs in more than 145 cities in more than 60 countries. ey.com/eoy

About EY's Growth Markets Network

EY's worldwide Growth Markets Network is dedicated to serving the changing needs of high-growth companies. For more than 30 years, we've helped many of the world's most dynamic and ambitious companies grow into market leaders. Whether working with international mid-cap companies or early stage, venture-backed businesses, our professionals draw upon their extensive experience, insight and global resources to help your business succeed. For more information, please visit us at ey.com/sgm or follow news on Twitter [@EY_Growth](https://twitter.com/EY_Growth).

About EY

EY is a global leader in assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services. The insights and quality services we deliver help build trust and confidence in the capital markets and in economies the world over. We develop outstanding leaders who team to deliver on our promises to all of our stakeholders. In so doing, we play a critical role in building a better working world for our people, for our clients and for our communities.

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