



Insurance BUSINESS AMERICA

Awards 2017

WINNERS REVEALED



Nominations flooded in from across the industry for the inaugural *Insurance Business America Awards*. Here, *IBA* spotlights all the winners across 22 categories





CELEBRATING THE industry professionals who strive for excellence and innovation every day, the first-ever *Insurance Business America Awards* arrived in Chicago on November 29, 2017, and it's fair to say it was a night that won't soon be forgotten.

Held at the Navy Pier's Aon Grand Ballroom, overlooking Lake Michigan with unparalleled views of Chicago's beautiful skyline, the event was hosted by actor and TV personality Alfonso Ribeiro and included entertainment from the Artistrings Band, Creative Action Arts and Hey Jimmy Band. The ceremony – already heralded as “the Oscars of the insurance industry” – attracted more than 450 of the nation's most talented insurance leaders and promising young professionals.

“The entries were of an incredibly high caliber, which really speaks to how the US has solidified itself as a worldwide leader in insurance,” says Mike Shipley, CEO of Key Media International, publisher of *Insurance Business America*. “It's humbling to see the incredible innovation that's happening right across the country. I hope everyone here is proud of what they have achieved and is inspired by the success of their peers.”

The glamorous event came at a time of rapid evolution in the industry. Insurance is often criticized for not adapting quickly enough to change, but both the Young Gun and Lifetime Achievement awards provided evidence of just how far – and how quickly – the insurance industry has progressed. In that regard, the *Insurance Business America Awards* serve as a shining example of how well most professionals are adapting to new challenges.

A total of 22 awards were handed out, ranging from individual accolades like Producer of the Year to company-wide honors such as Wholesale Partner of the Year, all recognizing superior professionals and organizations for their achievements and for raising the bar for the industry both across the country and abroad.

And the winners are ...

INSURANCE INDUSTRY EMPLOYER OF CHOICE 100 EMPLOYEES OR FEWER

WINNER

Acentria Insurance

FINALISTS

Abram Interstate Insurance Services

Furman Insurance

G&N Insurance

Klinger Insurance Group

Owen-Dunn Insurance Services

“We’re a small organization, run on family and Christian values, and that’ll never change. We care about our staff personally and professionally”

KENDALL MCEACHERN

Acentria Insurance

WITH A combined 50+ years of insurance industry experience, Kendall McEachern and Kevin Mason decided to form Acentria Insurance in 2010 in Destin, Florida.

Understanding that millennials are the key to success in the industry, Acentria Insurance actively participates with well known state universities and colleges that offer dedicated insurance and risk management programs. From serving as symposium panel members and guest speakers to attending and participating in college career days, Acentria team members regularly interact with impending graduates who are seeking internship and future employment opportunities.

Acentria Insurance also offers dedicated training and motivational seminars to challenge and properly equip team members with the knowledge, technology, opportunities and tools they need in order to be successful.

The aspect that most sets Acentria Insurance apart as an employer is the Acentria Insurance Annual Conference. Each year in August, staff, producers, the executive committee and board of directors gather for three days of networking, training, team-building and more.

Acentria strives to provide a fun and enjoyable work environment that makes staff feel proud and excited to come to work each day, wholeheartedly believing in the saying: “If you love what you do, you’ll never work a day in your life.”

The Acentria Insurance team



Kendall McEachern



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Acentria Insurance

Join the **EMPLOYER OF CHOICE**

Whether you are interested in joining the Employer of Choice or partnering your agency, contact us today!

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