



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Michigan Restaurant & Lodging Association Honors Mackinac Island Restaurant Owner with Distinguished Service Award**

*Patti Ann Moskwa presented award for lifelong commitment to the hospitality industry*

LANSING, MICH. – The Michigan Restaurant & Lodging Association (MRLA) awarded Patti Ann Moskwa with the Distinguished Service Award (DSA)—the highest honor awarded by the association—on January 13, 2019 at the MRLA’s annual Chairman’s Dinner at The H Hotel in Midland.

The hospitality gene runs in Moskwa’s family as the third-generation owner of Horn’s Gaslight Bar & Restaurant. After spending time working for her grandparents, Moskwa became a lifelong resident of Mackinac Island and dedicated herself to her businesses and the Island.

Moskwa managed Horn’s Gaslight Bar & Restaurant with her husband, Steven, and they became co-owners in 1987. Nearly ten years later, in 1996, the two built their second restaurant—Yankee Tavern. To this day, Moskwa owns both restaurants while running the daily operations. Moskwa has always been a strong voice for the industry on the political front as well. She often made trips to Lansing and Washington D.C. to advocate for restaurant business owners and, more specifically, the need for H2B visas.

Moskwa has been a member of the MRLA Board of Directors since 2002 and was awarded the first ever Grassroots Champion Award by the National Restaurant Association in 2007. She also is a member of the Mackinac Island Tourist Bureau and has served on the Mackinac Island School Board and the Planning Commission. She is a past Co-Chair of the Mackinac Island Lilac Festival.

“Patti Ann is an indispensable asset to both the Michigan Restaurant & Lodging Association and the entire industry,” said Justin Winslow, President & CEO of the MRLA. “From her political grassroots influence to her insight from working the day-to-day operations her entire career, she has always been a champion of our industry, which made our decision an easy one.”

The Distinguished Service Award recognizes individuals who have provided exceptional and continuing leadership, vision and commitment to Michigan’s hospitality industry. A recipient is selected each year by a committee made up of previous winners of the award.

**About the Michigan Restaurant & Lodging Association**

*Michigan Restaurant & Lodging Association (MRLA) is the recognized leader of Michigan’s hospitality industry, providing essential services to the foodservice and lodging community. Founded in 1921 as the Michigan Restaurant Association and now known as the MRLA, the Association represents over 5,000 Michigan foodservice and lodging establishments. The industry plays an integral role in Michigan’s economy, employing more than 595,000 people and creating nearly \$40 billion in annual sales. For more information, visit [www.mrla.org](http://www.mrla.org) and [www.detroitrla.org](http://www.detroitrla.org).*

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