



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN IN EVENTS ANNOUNCES HALL OF FAME RECOGNITION PROGRAM ANNOUNCES FIRST ANNUAL INDUCTEES**

The Association for Women in Events (AWE), a not for profit organization supporting gender equality and diversity in the event industry, has announced its inaugural inductees for the Women in Events Hall of Fame Recognition Program, hosted by the AWE Awards Committee. This Committee was formed with a vision to create an engaged group of elite, industry professionals that exemplify AWE values and serve as an ongoing resource for inspiration, guidance and leadership.

The Women in Events Hall of Fame recognizes the advancement of women in events by honoring women and men with a categorical award. Members and non-members, women and men in the events, hospitality and tourism industry were eligible to nominate and earn the recognition. The judging panel is made up of 2017 AWE board members who selected the following 2017 inductees: Andrea Streat, CMP, Disruptor Award; Audra Franks, M.T.A., CMP, CAE, Coach Award; Rose Mmbaga, BA, Woman of Influence Award; Katherine Stokoe, Emerging Leader Award and Dawn Repp, Organizational Leadership Award.

Inductees of each respective categorical award receive several opportunities for recognition, such as lifetime membership to AWE, becoming presenters or advisors for various AWE programs and events, press interviews, special profiles on the AWE website and more.

“The quality and breadth of the nominations was eye opening and humbling! I’m so proud to be part of such an inspiring community of men and women making a difference in our industry,” said Carrie Abernathy, CMP, CEM, CSEP, AWE Co-Founder and Chair. “The committee had a hard job making their decisions, but the honor is rightfully deserved by the people they chose.”

For more information on each of the 2017 inductees visit <http://www.womeninevents.org/Content/AWE-Awards/12/> or email [admin@womeninevents.org](mailto:admin@womeninevents.org). #AWEHallofFame

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## About the 2017 Women in Events Hall of Fame Inductees

| Hall of Fame Category     | Name                           | Title                                      | Organization                                       | Location              |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------|
| Disruptor                 | Andrea Streat, CMP             | Director, Conferences                      | International Foodservice Distributors Association | McLean, Virginia      |
| Coach                     | Audra Franks, M.T.A., CMP, CAE | Senior Director for Meetings               | American Dental Education Association              | Washington, D.C.      |
| Woman of Influence        | Rose Aggrey Mmbaga, BA         | Senior Marketing and Communication Officer | Raleigh International                              | Tanzania              |
| Emerging Leader           | Katherine Stokoe               | Manager of Meetings and Events             | Paragon Events, Inc.                               | Delray Beach, Florida |
| Organizational Leadership | Dawnn Repp                     | EVP, Chief Legal & Administrative Officer  | Freeman  | Dallas, Texas         |

For more information about each of the five individual 2017 inductees, please visit our website: <http://www.womeninevents.org/Content/AWE-Awards/12/>. Download inductee headshots [here](#).

### About the Association for Women in Events

The [Association for Women in Events](#) is an inclusive community dedicated to the professional advancement of women in all facets of the events industry. The international organization was established in Washington, D.C. March of 2015. AWE has earned international support from a myriad of individuals and organizations. Membership benefits include an immediate coaching program, access to the international membership directory, a robust events calendar, a quarterly educational eNewsletter, monthly webinars, ability to apply for Sponsorship Circle and 40+ opportunities for volunteer leadership positions. AWE offers annual individual, student, corporate and faculty memberships. For updates and announcements, follow AWE on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). #AWEwomen