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MEETINGS TODAY RECOGNIZES MEET HAWAI'I AS BEST WEST CVBs/DMOs

HONOLULU – The Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) today announced Meet Hawai'i has been recognized by Meetings Today as Best West CVBs/DMOs. Meetings Today announced the winners of its annual Best Of Awards, given to the top convention visitors bureaus (CVBs) / destination marketing organizations (DMOs) in North America, meeting facilities as well as awards for the top global DMOs. Meet Hawai'i was honored in the Best West CVBs/DMOs category.

"This prestigious award reinforces Hawai'i as a world-class meetings, convention and incentive destination for attendees and business travelers," said John Reyes, senior vice president and chief MCI sales officer of Meet Hawai'i. "With an intimate understanding of client needs and insider knowledge about the nuances of hosting events in the Hawaiian Islands, our experienced Meet Hawai'i team is an invaluable resource for meeting planners to execute their event successfully."

The 2022 Best Of Awards are the first following a year hiatus due to the pandemic's impact on the meetings and events industry, and while they have traditionally focused on hotel and resort meeting facilities, Meetings Today has expanded eligible award winners to include destinations (both domestic and international) and convention centers. The winners were selected via voting by Meetings Today's audience and content team. Criteria ranged from quality of meeting space, guest rooms, guest services and amenities, food and beverage service, efficiency and helpfulness of the staff, availability and quality of tech, recreational facilities and activities, cleanliness and COVID-19 protocols and overall value and experience.

"These are some of the top meeting facilities—and now convention centers and DMOs—in the business, and definitely can serve as a guide for meeting and event planners researching destinations and facilities for their upcoming meetings," said Tyler Davidson, vice president and chief content director of Meetings Today. "After a year hiatus, we're happy once again to bring to the fore these top facilities and destinations, and hope that planners will consider them for their meetings."

To discover the 2022 Best Of Awards winners, visit <u>http://www.meetingstoday.com/best-of-awards</u>.

HVCB is contracted by the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, the State of Hawai'i's agency responsible for representing The Hawaiian Islands around the world, and for holistically managing tourism in a sustainable manner, to provide global marketing and management services for the meetings, conventions, and incentives market. For information about hosting meetings, conventions and incentives, visit <u>MeetHawaii.com</u> or call 1-888-424-2924.

About HVCB

The Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) is a private non-profit organization contracted by the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) for global meetings, conventions, and incentives marketing and management services. HTA is the state's agency responsible for representing The Hawaiian Islands around the world, and for holistically managing tourism in a sustainable manner consistent with community desires, economic goals, cultural values, preservation of natural resources, and visitor industry needs. For more information about the Hawaiian Islands, visit <u>gohawaii.com</u> or follow updates on <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.

About Meet Hawai'i

Meet Hawai'i is a collaboration of the Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) and the Hawai'i Convention Center (HCC) to reinforce the brand of the Hawaiian Islands as a worldclass destination for global business meetings, conventions and incentive programs. The Global MCI efforts of the Meet Hawai'i team are overseen and funded by HTA, the State of Hawai'i's agency responsible for holistically managing tourism in a sustainable manner. HTA works with the community and industry to Mālama Ku'u Home – care for our beloved home. For information about Meet Hawai'i and the hosting of meetings, conventions and incentives, please visit <u>MeetHawaii.com</u>.

Special note to media: The Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) recognizes the use of the *'okina* ['] or glottal stop, one of the eight consonants of the (modern) Hawaiian language; and the *kahakō* [ā] or macron (e.g., in place names of Hawai'i such as Lāna'i). However, HVCB respects the individual use of these markings for names of organizations and businesses.

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