



THE BEST DESTINATION, CRUISE AND LIFESTYLE PARTNERS CELEBRATED AT THE 30TH ANNUAL VIRTUOSO® TRAVEL WEEK

LAS VEGAS (August 15, 2018) – Global luxury travel network [Virtuoso](#)® has recognized 20 exceptional destination, cruise and lifestyle partners as well as an outstanding advisor for her participation in Virtuoso's Communities initiative. The awards honor partners that shape products to match the needs of Virtuoso member agencies, providing a superlative client experience and strong support of the travel advisor community. Winners were revealed at three events during the 30th annual Virtuoso Travel Week event, taking place this week at Bellagio Resort & Casino, ARIA Resort & Casino and Vdara Hotel & Spa in Las Vegas.

Ten awards were distributed at the Destination Showcase dinner on August 13 at Bellagio, commemorating partners that provide remarkable experiences to Virtuoso clients and superior service to its advisors:

- Best Curated Travel Partner: **Wilderness Safaris**
- Best Escorted Tour Partner: **Tauck**
- Destinations & Experiences Ambassador of the Year: **Andrea Grisdale – IC Bellagio**
- Destinations & Experiences Partner of the Year: **andBeyond**
- Best Multi-Generational Program – Cruise: **Royal Caribbean International**
- Best Culinary Experience – Cruise: **Oceania Cruises**
- Most Luxurious Guest Experience – Cruise: **Crystal Cruises**
- Best Virtuoso Voyages Experience: **Barcelona by Made for Spain and Portugal**
- Best River Cruise Line: **AmaWaterways**
- Tourism Board of the Year: **Switzerland Tourism**

The Community Awards were given to one advisor and one partner involved with one or more of Virtuoso's four specialty niches: adventure, cruise, wellness and family. The winners, presented August 11 at ARIA, are:

- Most Engaged Community Member: **Alicia Diez – Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc.**
- Most Engaged Community Partner: **Micato Safaris**

The Alliance Partner Awards were presented on August 12 at a luncheon at Bellagio to outstanding preferred destinations and lifestyle suppliers:

- Most Engaged – North America: **Tourism Authority of Thailand**
- Most Engaged – Global: **Los Cabos Tourism Board**
- Most Innovative Alliances Partner: **USA Luxury Shopping Consortium**
- Most Comprehensive Advisor Program: **Tourism Australia**
- Hottest Destination of the Year: **Portuguese National Tourist Office**
- Top Destination of the Year: **German National Tourist Office**
- Ambassador of the Year: **Petra Roach, Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc.**
- Most Innovative Lifestyle Partner: **Galleries Lafayette**
- Honorary Recognition – Virtuoso Travel Dreams Tournament Champion: **PromPeru**

###

About Virtuoso:

Virtuoso® is the leading international travel agency network specializing in luxury and experiential travel. This by-invitation-only organization comprises over 1,000 travel agency partners with 17,500 elite travel advisors in 50 countries throughout North America, Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe, Asia-Pacific, Africa and the Middle East. Drawing upon its preferred relationships with 1,700 of the world's best hotels and resorts, cruise lines, airlines, tour companies and premier destinations, the network provides its upscale clientele with exclusive amenities, rare experiences and privileged access. More than (U.S.) \$23.7 billion in annual travel sales makes Virtuoso a powerhouse in the luxury travel industry. For more information, visit www.virtuoso.com.

Media Contacts:

Misty Ewing Belles
Managing Director, Global Public Relations
Virtuoso
Phone: 202.553.8817
Email: mewing@virtuoso.com

Lauren Wintemberg
Account Director
Alice Marshall Public Relations
Phone: 212.861.4031
Email: lauren@alicemarshall.com