



Photo L-R: Kevin Henley, Kat Steinbrecher, Paul Beachnau, Christy Walcott

Tourism Bureau Announces Trailblazer Award Recipient

May 10, 2023 - The Gaylord Area Convention & Tourism Bureau is pleased to announce the recipient of the 2022 Trailblazer Award, Kat Steinbrecher. The Tourism Bureau Board of Directors selected Kat for her innovative remodels of empty buildings to create unique and memorable dining experiences at Porter Haus, Mary's Stein Haus, Abi's Bistro, and most recently, Kane's Lobster Pot.

"Dining is a vital aspect of travel and experiencing locally owned, distinctive cuisine is a priority for many guests," Paul Beachnau, Executive Director, stated. "Kat has not only breathed new life into empty buildings, but she also gives them a creative flair that is especially appealing to visitors."

Given out annually at the State of the Tourism Industry luncheon, this award was created to recognize an individual or group who has made a significant contribution to improve the local tourism product within Gaylord/Otsego County and the surrounding area. The honor is intended not only to commend the recipient(s) for their contribution, but also to further raise awareness of the many tourism-related enhancements taking place around us each day.

Past recipients include: 2021 – Mark Copeland – Jay's Sporting Goods; 2020 – Scott & Janice Lampert – Sojourn Lakeside Resort, Sugar Bowl historic building, Fairfield Inn; 2020 – Justin Hacker – Gaylord Disc Golf Course; 2019 – Gary Kosch – Alpine Tavern & Otsego Grand Event Center; 2019 – Jerry Beattie – Sled Shed & Gaylord Area Snowmobile Trails Council.