



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 6, 2019  
Media Contact: Avery Pickard  
541-623-0064; info@oeda.biz

### **OEDA Honors Contributions to Economic Development with 2019 Awards of Excellence**

Salem, OR - The Oregon Economic Development Association (OEDA) is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2019 Awards of Excellence in Economic Development. The awards are an opportunity to celebrate the positive impact of economic development work and highlight excellence in the field. The awards were presented at the OEDA Annual Conference held in Salem on October 28-29<sup>th</sup>.

OEDA proudly presented the following awards:

**Economic Development Leader of the Year:** Colleen Padilla, Executive Director of Southern Oregon Economic Development Inc. (SOREDI).

**Business Development Success:** Laird Superfood of Sisters, Oregon.

**Outstanding Collaborative Partnership:** Southern Oregon Economic Development Inc. (SOREDI) for its SOREDI Quest program.

**Exceptional Economic Development Marketing and Promotions:** Jon Bowen for his work on the Live Rogue branding initiative.

**Urban Renewal Project of the Year:** Hermiston Urban Renewal Agency for the Holiday Inn Express & Suites Downtown Hermiston development and associated developments.

A newly established award, the **President's Award for Volunteer Service**, was given to OEDA Professional Development Committee Chairs Annie Gorski (City of Salem) and AJ Foscoli (City of Dallas).

Award recipients were selected through a competitive process with a range of criteria including: Innovation, Project/Individual Impact, Contribution to the Economic Development profession and Leadership.

"We're honored to take this time each year to recognize impactful work being done in the field of economic development across Oregon," said Kate Porsche, OEDA President.

OEDA is the state's foremost trade association for state, regional and local economic development professionals. OEDA represents over 146 economic development entities and over 400 professionals across Oregon.

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