

December 1, 2023 -- Farmingdale, New York

## elite | studio e Congratulates Annual Award Recipients

Today, elite | studio e announced the recipients of its 2023 annual awards, including the company's highest honor, Team Member of the Year. The award winners, which are named at the annual holiday party, represent individuals who have gone above and beyond in their role, leadership, dedication, and willingness to succeed.

"Your dedication, hard work and determination have truly defined our success, and it's a privilege to lead such a talented group of individuals. I thank all of you for playing such an important role at elite," said Ivan J. Weiss, President & COO, in his address to the entire company.

This year's winners include:

### Project Manager **Lance Frenkel**, Team Member of the Year Award

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This prestigious award is presented to an individual who has gone above and beyond through growth, performance, and dedication. Lance, who previously worked in the restaurant side of foodservice, has become a leader in our Project Management department.

### Team of the Year

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In 2020, elite | studio e switched its model to a team structure similar to the way architect firms operate. The result has been incredible from a variety of perspectives and as such we're shifting the spotlight to recognizing the team with the best performance. Achieving this nod not only takes a dedication to your client, but good leadership, countless hours of collaboration, shared victories and a camaraderie. This award was presented to Senior Vice President of Project Solutions **Aaron Weiss**; Vice President of Project Solutions **Joshua Mass**; Project Director **Zach Einhorn**; Director of Design **George Winsper**; Senior Project Designer **David Crimali**; Project Designer **Alexa Astacio**; Senior Project Coordinator **Lisa Jording**; Project Coordinator **Diane Storey**; and Project Manager **Nicholas Formica**.

### Vice President of Project Solutions **Chad Weiss**, Pinnacle Award for Total Sales Achievement

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Generating top revenue takes dedication to your clients, to your team, and the ability to diversify so that you can ensure you have a balanced portfolio of business. For nearly 15 years, Chad has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to elite | studio e through his creativity, innovation and leadership.

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Vice President of Consulting Services **Garin Wong**, Pinnacle Award for Design Sales Achievement

This is the first time this award is being presented recognizing total sales for design consulting. In addition to this achievement, Garin instills true foodservice consultant values, processes, and terminology throughout our design team, and has been instrumental in building our growing consulting team.

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Senior Project Designer **Natalie Steimle**, Circle of Excellence Award

Project Coordinator **Diane Storey**, Circle of Excellence Award

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The Circle of Excellence Awards are presented annually to individuals based on any of their achievements, dedication, deserving traits, or actions. Natalie was recognized for her all-around positive attitude, willing to chip in and top-notch design skills. Diane, who has been at elite | studio e for nearly 20 years, was applauded for her hard work, commitment, and loyalty. Both of their contributions to elite | studio e are very much appreciated.

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Senior Project Designer **James Collins, Jr.**, Jim Williams Learning Excellence Award

Named for one of company's earliest studio design members, Jim Williams, this award is presented to someone who exudes a similar passion for learning to push him or herself and the company forward. This year's recipient has gone from student to teacher at elite | studio e, always willing to train, review, teach and mentor his colleagues.

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Project Coordinator **Olivia Grieco**, Rookie of the Year Award

This award is given to someone that has joined Elite this calendar year, has demonstrated the ability to make a difference out of the gate, demonstrates great attitude, and someone we believe will continue to do great things in the future. Olivia, who is new to the industry, has a willingness to handle whatever the day brings, and always with a smile on her face.

In addition to these awards, Eric D. Weiss who is the Founder, Chair & CEO of elite | studio e, recognized Ivan Weiss for his leadership and commitment this year. The company has had a successful year, which contributes to its 18% increase in the number of team members during 2023.

elite | studio e is a design, build and consulting firm specializing in foodservice and hospitality solutions. For more information about elite | studio e, contact Marcy J. Weiss, Director of Marketing, at [mweiss@elitestudioe.com](mailto:mweiss@elitestudioe.com) or 631.420.9400.

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