



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Novi Recognizes Local Businesses at annual Business Recognition Awards**

*Those honored exemplify Novi spirit and serve as models for other community partners*

**Novi, Mich., November 30, 2009** – After receiving nominations from customers and community members, six awards were presented by Mayor David B. Landry at the second annual Business Recognition Awards held on Monday, November 23, 2009.

The award program was created to honor organizations whose exemplify Novi spirit and serve as models for other community partners. Nominees were evaluated on business practices, corporate citizenship, and green technologies. A committee of representatives from Oakland County, Novi Economic Development Corporation, Novi News, Novi Chamber of Commerce, and Novi Community Schools reviewed all nominations and selected the winners.

2009 award winners include (photos attached):

- **Sho Nakahama** of the **Japan Business Society of Detroit** received the Mayor's Ambassador of the Year Award for his continued support of Novi's Japanese businesses and residents and for being an exemplary partner to the community.
- **Hotel Baronette**, Large Business-Business Practices. The Hotel Baronette operates with an "open door" management philosophy, provides mentoring programs, seeks to advance careers, and has a Safety Committee made up of employees. The Hotel Baronette successfully inspires employees to create an atmosphere that is rewarding.
- **Sheraton Detroit Novi**, Large Business-Corporate Citizenship. The Sheraton Detroit Novi recently created an incentive program that led to the donation of over \$2,500 to charities. The Sheraton Detroit Novi has worked with local charitable organizations including Holy Family Church in Novi, St. Christina's, Faith Presbyterian Church, and Habitat for Humanity Oakland County. Additionally, internship opportunities are provided for high school students studying travel and tourism.
- **Novi Youth Hockey Association (NYHA)**, Small Business-Business Practices. NYHA provides each and every person within the association the opportunity to learn, grow, and enjoy the game of hockey by accommodating players of every level and utilizing dedicated volunteers to teach skills and good sportsmanship. The NYHA is the largest such organization in Michigan with over 620 players and 150 coaches. NYHA teams have won state and district championships and numerous invitational tournaments in and out of state.
- **Lotus Bank**, Small Business-Corporate Citizenship. Lotus Bank operates with an organizational philosophy of giving back by improving the areas in which they work and live

and as such, the Chief Financial Officer has staffed the Lighthouse of Oakland County financial distress hotline, staff members routinely volunteers at homeless shelters and food banks, church out-reach programs and other non-profit organizations. Monetary contributions have been made to dozens of local organizations. Additionally, Lotus Bank continues to participate in the annual Teach our Children to Save program.

- **Advanced Vein Therapies**, Green Technologies. At the office of Advanced Vein Therapies, many daily items are recycled including paper products, printing cartridges, and batteries. Other “green” initiatives include energy conservation, electronic medical records and “green” purchasing strategies.

FanningHowey, Cosmetic & Family Dentistry, Bright House Networks, Carrabbas Italian Grill, ServPro of Novi, Bonefish Grill, Town & Country Eyecare and Total Sports Complex received Honorable Mentions.

The City of Novi thanks those who provided nominations and wishes continued success to all Novi businesses. For more information about the City of Novi, please visit [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org). For more information about doing business in Novi, visit [InvestNovi.org](http://InvestNovi.org).

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