## WILLOWS LODGE WINS SILVER MEDAL IN PRESTIGIOUS 2019 STELLA AWARD FOR BEST BOUTIQUE PROPERTY, FAR WEST REGION

Northstar Meetings Group 3rd annual award honors excellence in the meetings industry

**NOVEMBER 4, 2019 - WOODINVILLE, WA** —Willows Lodge announced today that the hotel has won the silver medal in the 3rd Annual Stella Awards for the Best Boutique Property, Far West Region from Northstar Meetings Group. The Stella Awards honor excellence in the meetings industry. The program distinguishes suppliers from around the globe that consistently deliver quality service and innovation to meeting and event professionals. Winners include the very best hotels, convention centers, conference centers, convention and visitor bureaus, destination marketing organizations, destination management companies, airlines and cruise lines.

"We're thrilled to be recognized for delivering exceptional meeting experiences as Best Boutique Property in the Far West Region," said Denny Fitzpatrick GM, Willows Lodge. "The Stella Award is a seal of excellence, reflecting all the hard work and passion our team puts into creating a memorable experience for every group we host here at Willows Lodge."

Winners were recognized for achieving overall excellence, superb food and beverage, professionalism of staff, technology innovations, and other critical aspects of the meetings and event experience. This year, nearly 10,000 votes were cast from around the world for the 508 destinations, hotels and service providers nominated in 18 categories in six regions in the United States and worldwide. There were a total of 278 total winners and finalists for 2019.

After nominations closed in April 2019, finalists in each category were determined by meeting planners during an open voting period during which nearly 10,000 unique votes were tallied. Winners were then selected by an expert panel of judges overseen by the editors of Northstar Meetings Group's leading brands, Meetings & Conventions and Successful Meetings.

"The real value of the Stellas is not just to those who are being recognized for their excellence, but to the tens of thousands of other planners who look to their peers for recommendations and advice," said David Blansfield, executive vice president and group publisher, Northstar Meetings Group. "The Stellas provide an objective, curated and credible majority view on the best of the best in the meetings industry."

All Stella Award winners and finalists are featured in a special section in the November 2019 issues of Meetings & Conventions and Successful Meetings.

## **About Willows Lodge**

Willows Lodge, a Northwest style lodge located in Woodinville Wine Country just outside of Seattle, features 84 luxury guest rooms, a full-service spa and more than 5000 square feet of flexible indoor and outdoor meeting/event space. All of the space features windows and an abundance of natural lighting. Many of the rooms also boast outdoor patios and/or fireplaces to

add to the ambiance. Executive Chef Bobby Moore's modern American cuisine with a focus on locally sourced ingredients at Barking Frog reflects the seasonal and organic produce found in Puget Sound, and is artfully paired with an extensive list of Washington wines. Willows Lodge also boasts Fireside Lounge, offering a casual and sophisticated atmosphere tucked away in the lobby with an outdoor patio overlooking the expansive surrounding landscape. www.willowslodge.com

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