

NEWS

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PHOTO CAPTION:

Gordon J. Bernhardt, President and CEO of Bernhardt Wealth Management and author of “Profiles in Success: Inspiration from Executive Leaders in the Washington D.C. Area” presented Maris P. Angolia, President and CEO of Karin’s Florist of Vienna, Va, with the 2018 Profiles in Success Award for demonstrating business leadership guided by character, chemistry and caring.

The award is a replication of *Ascent*, by artist Gary Lee Price. Like the award, the sculpture of Native Americans climbing up a cliff represent the struggle to overcome opposition and difficult personal challenges and the absolute need we have for others to reach out, bring us in and raise us up.



Bernhardt Wealth Management Voices Gratitude for Executives Demonstrating Character-Driven Leadership

Maris Angolia of Karin’s Florist receives annual Profiles in Success award

MCLEAN, VA [November 21, 2018] – Maris P. Angolia, President and CEO of Karin’s Florist in Vienna, Va., is this year’s recipient of the Profiles in Success Award given to an area executive for their demonstrated leadership skills that embrace character, chemistry and caring. Angolia accepted the award from Gordon J. Bernhardt, President and CEO of Bernhardt Wealth Management at the annual Profiles in Success event on November 8, 2018 at the Tower Club in McLean, Va. among a crowd of top area business owners, CEOs and entrepreneurs.

“Hearing the bios, hearing the other stories and knowing some of these other leaders, I just have to say I am totally speechless,” said Angolia upon receiving the award. “Thank you all. Thank you for this community, to my family, and thank you, Gordon, for doing all this.”

Gordon J. Bernhardt, CFP®, AIF® President and CEO of [Bernhardt Wealth Management](#) and creator of “Profiles in Success,” an inspirational series of books that focus on character-based leadership, set the tone for the night with words on gratitude, especially for the business executives in the room.

“I am grateful for the Profiles in Success Community. You, all of you, that I’ve had the gift of interviewing, you’ve influenced me in ways that I’ll never be able to repay you for...I want to thank you for that gift,” he said.

In a shocking revelation from the evening’s keynote speaker and Profiles alum, Bill Carteaux, President and CEO of the Plastics Industry Association, a focus on gratitude, persistence and the courage to make difficult choices was accentuated. The leader in an industry affected significantly by the Great Recession and a two-time cancer survivor, Carteaux shared an emotional story with insight he has gained as a result of tough choices he had to make. He ended with an announcement that just days before the Profiles event he learned that his cancer was back for a third time.

“I choose today to do it all over again. To fight back and choose life, over and over again, the same way I did before. Love, life and leadership are choices you make every day, and while they might not all be made on a stage in front of a bunch of people, that doesn’t make them any less important,” Carteaux stated. “The real work of love, life and leadership comes down to making a decision to do that work; to put in the hours and the time and the sweat to make these things a priority and a part of your life that benefits everybody, not just you.”

The following 2018 Profiles in Success Award finalists were selected from a record number of nominations:

Maris Angolia, Karin’s Florist
Kristina Bouweiri, Reston Limousine
Jerry Gordon, Fairfax County Economic Development Authority
Vijay Lakshman, Mythborn Media
Lynda Mann, YouthQuest Foundation
Chuck Vollmer, Jobenomics

The award and networking event was established in conjunction with the book series, [Profiles in Success: Inspiration from Executive Leaders in the Washington D.C. Area](#), to establish a community of successful small-business owners, corporate executives and industry leaders who wish to perpetuate the executive leadership values of character, chemistry and caring throughout American society. According to Bernhardt, the Profiles book series is packed with leadership lessons for the next generation of business leaders.

“Despite her marked impact out in the community and in the world around her, however, some of Maris’s most important work takes place on the most common of days and in the confines of the store. There, she strives to lead by example, striking a tone of uncompromising honesty, integrity, and positivity,” wrote Bernhardt after interviewing Angolia for the Profiles series.

Award selection methodology: The process of selecting the Profiles in Success Award winner begins with nominations from the Profiles community. Each nominee completes an in-depth application. The Selection Committee reviews the applications and narrows down the list to an appropriate number. Scores from the written application are ranked to determine a winner. A record number of nominations were received for the 2018 award. For inspiring stories of local entrepreneurs, visit www.profilesinsuccessbook.com.

About Bernhardt Wealth Management

Gordon J. Bernhardt, CFP[®], AIF[®] of Bernhardt Wealth Management in McLean, Virginia provides financial planning and wealth management services to affluent individuals, families and business-owners throughout the Washington, DC area. Committed to a higher fiduciary standard of excellence, he has earned the professional designations of CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER[™] professional and Accredited Investment Fiduciary[®]. Gordon received his degree in commerce from the University of Virginia. Since establishing his firm in 1994, he has been focused on providing high-quality service and independent financial advice in order to help his clients make smart decisions about their money. For more information, visit www.bernhardtwealth.com and read Gordon’s blog at www.bernhardtwealth.com/blog

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