

## (Press Release)

## "Macao Convention and Exhibition Commendation Awards 2019" Accepting Applications Now

In recent years, Macao's convention and exhibition industry has developed rapidly. A total of 1,427 events were held in 2018, an increase of 46 year-on-year, including 1,342 conferences (+57), 60 exhibitions (+9) and 25 incentive programs (-20). Meeting attendants and exhibition audience reached 2.12 million, up 11.6%, reflecting the Convention and Exhibition Stimulation Program and the "Priority of Meeting" strategies implemented by the Macao government have achieved remarkable results. With the opening of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and the launching of the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, Macao MICE industry has also ushered into a new regional multi-directional cooperation mode.

In order to reinforce industry strength and to build a platform for industry to share, exchange and co-operate, the "Macao Convention and Exhibition Commendation Awards 2019" organized by Macao Convention and Exhibition Association (MCEA) will be launched again this year. This commendation event aims to meet the positioning of "One Center, One Platform, One Base" and to align with the urban development plan of the Big Bay Area as well as to cope with the SAR Government's direction on promoting the MICE industry in fostering more local MICE brands so as eventually becoming an annual event of the MICE industry in Macao.

The "Macao Convention and Exhibition Commendation Awards 2019" consists a total of six categories (presenting 1 to 3 awards per category), namely the Brand Exhibition Award, Brand Convention Award, Innovative Exhibition Award, Bid Convention Award, Original Convention and Exhibition Award as well as the Creative Event Award to recognize the diversified content of MICE events and to encourage more industry participation. It is open to all Macao MICE industry peers by means of self-nomination and recommendation by others so as to broadly invite local MICE candidates to participate. The judging panel, comprising of industry representatives, MICE industry experts and scholars, will decide the deserving award winner. Any exhibition and convention events (including bid conventions) that were held in Macao between 1 October 2018 and 30 September 2019 are eligible to participate. For those who are interested, please visit the MCEA's website at <u>www.mcea.org.mo</u> to download the entry forms. Upon completion of the entry form, please email or deliver it to MCEA Secretariat together with all required information. The submission deadline is on 8 October 2019.

The "Macao Convention and Exhibition Commendation Awards 2019" is organized by Macao Convention and Exhibition Association (MCEA) and co-organized by Macau Fair & Trade Association, the Association of Advertising Agents of Macau and Macau Federal Commercial Association of Convention & Exhibition Industry. Supporting organizations include Macao Foundation, Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute, Macao Government Tourism Office, Macao Chamber of Commerce, Macau Economic Association, China Convention and Exhibition Society, and Asian Federation of Exhibition & Convention Associations (AFECA).

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