



**GIANTS  
ENTERPRISES**

# News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **GIANTS ENTERPRISES WINS ILEA ESPRIT AWARD FOR PRODUCING MPI'S WORLD EDUCATION CONGRESS OPENING NIGHT**

August 16, 2016 (*San Francisco, Calif.*) – Giants Enterprises took home another Esprit Award at the annual International Live Events Association (ILEA) LIVE ceremony in Austin, Texas, this past Saturday for producing Meeting Professionals International's (MPI) 2015 World Education Congress (WEC) Opening Night Celebration.

More than 2,000 attendees flocked to the Barbary Coast-themed event at PIER 48 across the cove from AT&T Park in San Francisco on August 1, 2015. The event was loaded with everything intriguing and bizarre – from aerial artists and stilt walkers to trash can bands and performances covering a century of music made famous in The City by the Bay. For delighting MPI members with a “Circus of the Unique and Strange,” Giants Enterprises won in the “Best Event for a Non-Profit Organization” category beating out 14 other entries.

“We are thrilled to have won an Esprit Award and sincerely appreciate the recognition from the ILEA voting committee,” said Stephen Revetria, Senior Vice President of Giants Enterprises. “Producing an Opening Night Celebration for experienced meeting planners with high expectations is no small task, so I’m especially excited that our team was recognized for its tireless effort.”

The annual WEC is MPI's signature event through which top-rated education, networking and business opportunities are delivered to the meeting and event community. WEC participants are immersed in a program designed to energize and inspire to re-imagine what's possible within meetings and events.

“Simply put, the Opening Night Celebration was flawlessly executed,” said Paul Van Deventer, President and CEO of MPI. “Our WEC attendees were captivated by the diverse array of entertainers and everyone left with a smile on their face.”

Established in 1995, The ILEA Esprit Awards program is a globally recognized awards competition that honors the exceptional professional achievements of individuals and organizations from across the ILEA membership, representing all facets of the event. For over 20 years, the ILEA Esprit Awards program has been one of the most dynamic, multi-disciplinary events industry awards programs, attracting an exceptional range, depth and quality of entries. This year, the Esprit Awards attracted a total of 326 entries.

“The ILEA Esprit Awards are not only an incentive for inspiration and a catalyst for personal potential and professional growth, but an opportunity to celebrate the collective talent and success of the entire events industry,” said Lauren Rini, Specialty Programs Manager of ILEA. “Winning a prestigious ILEA Esprit Award from a highly regarded International platform elevates the events industry and highlights the creative efforts and originality of event professionals.”

Working hand-in-hand with Giants Enterprises, San Francisco Travel helped to orchestrate the entire three-day, city-wide convention. San Francisco Travel expertly organized logistics ranging from hotel accommodations to maximizing the use of Moscone while flawlessly showcasing San Francisco as a premier destination for convention business.

With the win, Giants Enterprises continues its string of success on the international stage. Since winning its first Esprit in 2009, the San Francisco-based company has now collected a total of seven Esprit Awards.

For photos of the MPI WEC Opening Night Celebration, [click here](#).

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**About Giants Enterprises:** Giants Enterprises is dedicated to developing new ventures beyond the Major League Baseball franchise in addition to utilizing AT&T Park as a destination for non-baseball special events in San Francisco. For more than 15 years, Giants Enterprises has produced over 2,000 private events and hosted numerous public events including major concerts, motor sports events, international soccer matches, professional and college football games, Cirque de Soleil and more. For more information visit [www.giantsesterprises.com](http://www.giantsesterprises.com).

**About ILEA:** ILEA, formally the International Special Events Society, was founded in 1987 to foster enlightened performance through education while promoting ethical conduct. ILEA works to join event and meeting professionals to focus on the "event as a whole" rather than its individual parts. ILEA has grown to involve over 5,500 members active in over 50 chapters throughout the world. The solid peer network ILEA provides helps special events professionals produce outstanding results for clients while establishing positive working relationships with other event colleagues.

**About MPI:** Meeting Professionals International (MPI) is the largest meeting and event industry association worldwide. Founded in 1972, the organization provides innovative and relevant education, networking opportunities and business exchanges, and acts as a prominent voice for the promotion and growth of the industry. MPI has a global community of 60,000 meeting and event professionals including more than 17,000 engaged members and its Plan Your Meetings audience. It has more than 90 chapters and clubs in 24 countries.

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