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Albany County Convention & Visitors Bureau Wins 2016 Pinnacle Award

Named Best CVB/DMO in Northeast Region

Secaucus, NJ (July 6, 2016) – Albany County Convention & Visitors Bureau has been recognized by readers of *Successful Meetings* as a 2016 Pinnacle Award winner in the Best CVB/DMO category in the Northeast region.

Presented annually by Northstar Meeting Group's *Successful Meetings* brand, the Pinnacle Awards are voted on by decision-makers for planning meetings, events, conferences and incentive programs in the US and worldwide.

"We couldn't be more pleased by this honor," says Michele Vennard, President and CEO of the Albany County Convention & Visitors Bureau. "Every day, we strive to exceed expectations for the meetings and convention planners who bring their conferences and special events to Albany. We like to think of ourselves as the community concierge for Albany, doing everything in our power to attract and facilitate successful meetings and events. The Albany Capital Center and Capital Complex, which will come on-line in March 2017, is a direct result of those efforts, and this award is further confirmation that our efforts are absolutely paying off."

"On behalf of Northstar and the unrivaled audience of meeting planners and suppliers we are proud to represent, I congratulate Albany County Convention & Visitors Bureau and all of the organizations

and venues who have been recognized for their outstanding efforts to elevate business meetings, incentive travel programs, trade shows and conventions during the previous year," says David Blansfield, Executive Vice President and Group Publisher for Northstar Meetings Group. "The winners of the 2016 Pinnacle Awards are truly at the top of their game."

For over 30 years, the Pinnacle Awards have earned a reputation as the most credible and valued symbol of excellence among meeting professionals and travel suppliers alike. Adding significance to this year's awards are new categories honoring the best hotel décor/design, on-site support staff, and food & beverage service.

Readers of *Successful Meetings* voted for the winners of the Pinnacle Awards via online ballots and provided feedback based on their professional experiences worldwide for their top hotels, conference centers and CVBs.

All winners will be listed in *Successful Meetings'* annual Pinnacle Registry, published in August 2016 and online.

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ABOUT NORTHSTAR MEETINGS GROUP:
The Northstar Meetings Group is the leading B-to-B information and marketing solutions company serving all segments of the business events market, including full-time meeting planners, as well as senior corporate, association and not-for-profit decision-makers and incentive professionals who plan nearly 2 million meetings annually. Through its leading brands – *Meetings & Conventions*, *Successful Meetings*, *Incentive* and *Meetings News* – the Northstar Meetings Group is committed to identifying and informing meeting and event professionals, facilitating not only their continuing professional development but also providing data, digital, events and print services in support of their planning and investment decisions. For more information, please visit www.northstarmeetingsgroup.com.

About the ACCVB
The Albany County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc. was established in 1976 to promote the civic and commercial progress of the community through increased development of conventions and tourism. ACCVB currently represents more than 300 member businesses and assists each year in hundreds of regional meetings. ACCVB also operates the Albany Heritage Area Visitors Center, Henry Hudson Planetarium, and the Albany International Airport Information Center. For more information, call 518-434-1217 or 800-258-3582 or visit www.albany.org.

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