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CHAPEL HILL/ORANGE COUNTY VISITORS BUREAU NAMED DESTINATION MARKETING COMPETITION WINNER

PASADENA, CA -- The **North American Travel Journalists Association** (NATJA) announced that the Chapel Hill/Orange County Visitors Bureau won a Bronze Award for the entry, "Orange County, NC Neighborhoods Guide" in the category Big Idea for the 27th Annual North American Travel Journalists Association (NATJA) Awards Competition. This awards competition, now in its 27th year, honors the best of the best in travel journalism, photography and destination marketing that cover all aspects of the travel industry.

Submissions for the competition are worldwide and reflect destination marketing organizations, major publications, renowned journalists, and influential bloggers. "The winners are a microcosm of the talent and creativity that encapsulates our industry leading members," said Helen Hernandez, CEO, NATJA. "As our membership continues to grow so do the submissions of the accomplished pool of those who work in the travel industry—raising the competitiveness and prestige of the annual NATJA Awards."

This year's winners and honorees will be showcased at the inaugural NATJA Awards Dinner on Friday, February 15, 2019 at the City Club in downtown Los Angeles, Calif.

"The inaugural awards dinner will feature the entrants whose work stood out amongst the hundreds of superb submissions competing for a NATJA Award," said NATJA Advisory Board Chair Kathryn Farrington. "The NATJA board, staff and members would like to thank the judges for their time and expertise in evaluating this year's submissions and identifying the best of the best from each category."

Founded in 1991, NATJA is a travel journalism industry leader that fosters high quality journalism by supporting the professional development of its members, providing exceptional program benefits and valuable resources, honoring the excellence of journalism throughout the world, and promoting travel and leisure to the general public. NATJA also publishes *TravelWorld International Magazine* (www.travelworldmagazine.com/).

For more information about NATJA or a complete list of 2018 award winners and honorable mentions, visit <u>www.natja.org</u>.

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