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## SME Receives 2024 CSAE Association of the Year Award

*This prestigious award recognizes Colorado-based organizations that excel in driving industry innovation, member engagement and community impact*



Photo credit: Christie's Photographic Solutions

**Denver, CO** - Last Thursday, June 6 at the Colorado Society of Association Executives (CSAE) 2024 Annual Awards in Fort Collins, CO, the Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration (SME) was recognized as the Association of the Year. CSAE is the organization in Colorado focused on associations, and comprises more than 400 members representing more than 270 trade, professional, educational, philanthropic, technical, and other similar type organizations in Colorado.

“We are so proud to present this award to SME, an outstanding Colorado-based association because Dave Kanagy, Melanie Penoyar-Perez and their entire team embody best practices for associations across the world,” said Su Hawk, CSAE Executive Director. “The CSAE 2024 Annual Awards, our inaugural awards program, featured a remarkable class of nominees whom we are thrilled to shed light upon.”

We have continued to excel in our mission of serving the mining, resources and underground construction communities for a sustainable future. Highlights from the last year include:

- Highest membership total since 2018 (13,622)
- Awarded \$1.5 million in scholarships, fellowships and grants
- Published four new books
- Set attendance record for three conferences

“It is an honor to work with the SME staff in delivering on our vision of building a better world through mining, metallurgy and underground construction,” said David L. Kanagy, SME Executive Director and CEO. “SME works every day to produce products and services that support our members in their efforts to provide the raw materials for the beginning of the worldwide supply chain. We are pleased to be recognized with this award.”

Our forward-thinking approach has kept up with the rapidly evolving nature of the industries we serve. This includes initiatives to aid in the replenishing of the mining and underground construction workforce to meet the many challenges of tomorrow, such as the mineral-intensive green energy transition. For example, our Industry Workforce Strategic Committee, one of many groups within SME assigned to a certain focus area, has developed 12 episodes of [Jobs of Tomorrow](#). This acclaimed, cutting-edge career docuseries currently airs on SME Studios, Amazon and Tubi.

Supporting our members with the resources, events, tools and connections to achieve their goals is at the forefront of what we do. Outside of the eight in-person conferences that we host annually, our Membership Team has developed events and programs to provide members opportunities to network and engage. To name just a few, our Mentor Match Program, virtual

engagement events and section calls with the president ensure that individuals at every level have opportunities to make the most of their membership.

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### **About SME**

The Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration (SME) brings together the mining and mineral industry's brightest and most dedicated professionals. Over 13,000 global members advance their careers with the world-class technical resources, educational programs, networking opportunities and professional development tools from SME. Our members are focused on sharing best practices for safety, environmental stewardship and moving mining forward. SME. *Inspiring mining professionals worldwide.*