

THE FIRST EDITION OF THE MALTA BUSINESS AWARDS – 24 BUSINESSES CHOSEN AS WINNERS

On Friday evening 24 local businesses received the highest honours in the local business scene at the very first edition of the Malta Business Awards which took place at the Mediterranean Conference Centre in Valletta.

The Malta Business Awards were organized by the Malta Chamber of SMEs in partnership with Malta Enterprise to recognize the work of Maltese businesses, honouring some of the best businesses in various prestigious categories including the SME of the Year, Local Cultural Contributor, Gozo Business of the Year and the highest honour, the President's Choice Award.

With over 300 nominations in the different categories presented, 100 finalists were chosen by independent judges during the first round, with the winners being chosen after a second round of judging following pitches put forward by the finalists.

The event was attended by over 550 people representing local businesses and major stakeholders in the industry.

The Minister for the Environment, Enterprise and Energy, Hon. Miriam Dalli said: "The first edition of the Malta Business Awards served as a showcase of our nation's leading entrepreneurs and businesses, who despite the ongoing challenges still strive to produce and deliver excellent products and services. I look forward to seeing more businesses adopt innovative and sustainable solutions, giving their operations a competitive edge.

Paul Abela, President of the Malta Chamber of SMEs highlighted the fact that Maltese businesses had been waiting for an evening like this for a very long time and that it has now finally arrived.

Malta Chamber of SMEs CEO, Abigail Agius Mamo said that it was a great honour that together with Malta Enterprise such awards were created in order to recognize Maltese business.

Malta Enterprise CEO, Kurt Farrugia said: "Our country has a strong and resilient business community and our mission as Malta Enterprise is to see that Maltese business is further strengthened and that it regenerates itself to be stronger in its future endeavours. Our schemes are designed to support businesses in their path towards growth. Tonight's awards are a celebration of all the good that Maltese and Gozitan businesses and workers have to offer."

The winners of the first edition of the Malta Business Awards are:

1. Local Cultural Contributor

1st Stephanie Borg
1st Runner Up - Golden Island Ltd
2nd Runner up - Te Fit-Tazza

2. Leader in Inclusivity Award

1st Costa Coffee – The Coffee Company Malta Ltd
1st Runner Up - HILA Homoes
2nd Runner up – Verdala International School

3. Exceptional Wellbeing at the Workplace

1st Lottoland Malta
1st Runner Up - Finductive Ltd
2nd Runner up – Switch – Digital & Brand

4. Customer Service Excellence Award

1st ESS Ltd
1st Runner Up – Melita Ltd
2nd Runner up – Maypole Bakery Ltd

5. Best CSR Initiative

1st Jacob’s Brew Cafe
1st Runner Up – Lottoland Malta
2nd Runner up – Malta Freeport Terminals Ltd.

6. Apprentice of the Year Award

1st Mirhea Abdilla
1st Runner Up – Amber Borg
2nd Runner up – Chris Saliba

7. Leader in Sustainable Initiatives Award

1st Gerada Quality Construction
1st Runner Up – MRX Investments Ltd
2nd Runner up – Natural Health Malta

8. Innovative Climate Solution Award

1st WES Trade Ltd
1st Runner Up – Frank Wrap
2nd Runner up – Bio Aqua Garden Ltd

9. Green Transport Initiative Award

1st Rotolo Ltd
1st Runner Up – Malta Electromodility Manufacturing
2nd Runner up – Michael Attard Ltd

10. Carbon Neutral Commitment Award

1st Lottoland Malta
1st Runner Up – Melita Ltd
2nd Runner up – Oli Vibra Ltd

11. Best Waste Reduction Strategy

1st Frank Wrap
1st Runner Up – Aquaculture resources Ltd
2nd Runner up – General Soft Drinks

12. Innovative Business Award

1st Freehour Ltd
1st Runner Up – Diligex
2nd Runner up – Moneybase Ltd

13. Reinvention Award

- 1st Portughes Dry Cleaning**
- 1st Runner Up – HumAin Ltd**
- 2nd Runner up – Jugs Malta Ltd**

14. Leader in Quality Tourism

- 1st Colours of Malta**
- 1st Runner Up – Merill Rural Network**
- 2nd Runner up – Robert Arrigo & Sons Ltd**

15. Best Campaign

- 1st Crosscraft Ltd**
- 1st Runner Up – Retail Marketing Ltd - Welbees**
- 2nd Runner up – Eurosport**

16. B2B Digital Solution of the Year

- 1st Arkafort Ltd**
- 1st Runner Up – Diligex**
- 2nd Runner up – Scope**

17. Young Entrepreneur of the Year

- 1st Alona Aldruk – Take-Off**
- 1st Runner Up – Miran Sapiano – Celebrate Life Malta**
- 2nd Runner up – Carlos Borg – Carisma Collections**

18. Start-up Business of the Year

- 1st Celebrate Life Malta**
- 1st Runner Up – Fyorin**
- 2nd Runner up – My Mama**

19. Best Financial Institution

- 1st Moneybase Ltd**
- 1st Runner Up – Finductive Ltd**
- 2nd Runner up – Lifestar Insurance Plc**

20. Gozo Business of the Year

- 1st David's Bakery**
- 1st Runner Up – Ta' Mena Agri Ltd**

- 2nd Runner up – Kempinski San Lawrenz**

21. Female Entrepreneur of the Year

- 1st Dr Joanna Delia – People and Skin**
- 1st Runner Up – Jo Caruana - Finesse**
- 2nd Runner up – Sarah Mifsud – Saz Mifsud**

22. Family Business of the Year

- 1st Busy Bee**
- 1st Runner Up – Oxford house**
- 2nd Runner up – Greens Supermarket**

23. SME of the Year

- 1st Bajada Group**
- 1st Runner Up – Maritime MT**
- 2nd Runner up – Misco**

24. Presidents' Choice Award

Robert Arrigo & Sons

The Malta Business Awards will be aired on TVMNews+ on Wednesday 9th November at 9pm.

The Malta Business Awards would like to thank its supporters:

Headliners: Malta Tourism Authority, Yellow, WasteServ & Trust Payments;

Gold: Malta International Airport, Energy and Water Agency, Foundation for Transport, Ministry for National Heritage, Lands and Local Government and EPIC, our communication partner;

Silver: Ministry for Gozo, GSD Marketing Ltd, MCAST, Ministry for Social Policy and Children's Rights, Ministry for Economy, EU Funds and Lands, Nectar Malta, Convera

Bronze: APS Bank, Parliamentary Secretary for Social Dialogue within the Office of the Prime Minister, Deloitte, GCS Malta, Ministry for Inclusion and Social Wellbeing, Remax Malta, Avanza Training Academy, Merchandise Malta, SANCHO & Malta Development Bank.