

**Contact Information:**

Erica Schulte King

INFRA, Director of Marketing & Communication

eking@infretailers.com

651-888-4711

Press Release – For Immediate Release
INFRA Celebrates 2021 Award Winners

St. Paul, Minnesota – August 16, 2021 – INFRA announced the 2021 INFRA Award winners at the INFRA Virtual Conference last week. Each year, the INFRA community comes together to recognize members and industry partners who go above and beyond in a variety of categories from sustainability to innovation to leadership.

Yogesh Patel, Owner of Nature's Pick Market in Marietta, GA accepted the 2021 Sales Growth Award in the Small Store Category on behalf of his team. "We are a little, 4-year-old business. We became a full INFRA Member in 2019. INFRA allowed us to bring everyday low prices as well as monthly sales which all contributed towards the sales growth," said Patel.

"We are so honored to have been the recipient of the 2021 Most Intriguing New Innovation Award from INFRA. INFRA represents to us an organization that has been on the cutting edge of innovation in retail," said Miyoko Schinner, Founder and CEO of Miyoko's Creamery. "Innovation is the key to our own success as a human species, our own evolution, and to creating a world that is based on sustainability and compassion."

Congratulations to 2021 INFRA Award winners; we look forward to continued collaboration and partnership!

2021 INFRA New Vendor Partner Award – CADIA
2021 Innovation Award – Hawthorne Valley Farm Store
2021 Leadership Award – Aaron Gottschalk
2021 Leadership Award – Kimberly Hallinan
2021 Leadership Award – Paku Misra
2021 Leadership Award – Thomas Barstow
2021 Member Choice Award – Natural Factors
2021 Most Intriguing New Innovation Award – Miyoko's Creamery
2021 Sales Growth Award: Large Store Category – Fresh Plus Markets, Hyde Park Location
2021 Sales Growth Award: Large Store Category – Kimberton Whole Foods, Ottsville Location
2021 Sales Growth Award: Medium Store Category – Local Foods in Chicago, IL
2021 Sales Growth Award: Small Store Category – Nature's Pick in Marietta, GA
2021 Service to the Industry Award – Donnie Caffery
2021 Store of the Year Award – Jimbo's...Naturally!
2021 Sustainability Stewardship Award – Equal Exchange

"We're thankful to have this year's conference award winners in our community," said Pat Sheridan, President & CEO of INFRA. "Four departing board members whose unselfish commitment and hard work have evolved INFRA in so many positive ways; seven standout member owners who, despite a pandemic, were able to innovate, grow, and excel in operations; and four brand partners for whom making a difference is embedded in their business practices. The INFRA Awards recognize their commitments, contributions, and growth during a most challenging year. Well deserved!"

About INFRA

Vision: Leading the Movement. Driving the Industry. Feeding the Community.

Mission: Strengthening our members through collaboration to forge a sustainable future.

Independent Natural Food Retailers Association (INFRA) is a purchasing cooperative owned and governed by natural and organic food retailers of all sizes working together to forge a sustainable future. INFRA facilitates member collaboration with programs, tools, and in-person events to strengthen independents' position in the marketplace. @infretailers
www.naturalfoodretailers.net

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