



Franklin Luminaire Awards

2018 Franklin Luminaire Award Winners Announced

ALEXANDRIA, Va. - May 3, 2018 – The foundations of Idealliance and Printing Industries Alliance (PIA) are pleased to announce that Chris Harrold of Mohawk Fine Papers; Dr. Samir Husni-“Mr. Magazine” of the University of Mississippi; Rebecca Pappas of BizBash Media; and John G. Sommers Jr., of Allied Printing Services, will be recipients of 2018 Franklin Luminaire Awards.

The awards, which recognize exceptional professionals for their positive contribution and service within the media and graphic communications industry, will be presented at the annual Franklin Luminaire Awards event on Oct. 17 at The Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers in New York City. Event sponsorships are available and are offered at early bird rates through August 15th.

“The annual Franklin Luminaire Awards event provides an opportunity for professionals from every sector of our industry to come together and recognize the contributions of incredibly talented and dedicated individuals who have proven their commitment to excellence,” says Meghan Milkowski, Co-Chair of the Franklin Luminaire Committee and Vice President of Operations-Print Group at Dow Jones.

“We look forward to honoring these four outstanding industry professionals and expressing our appreciation for their singular contributions to our industry during our Franklin Luminaire Awards program this fall,” says Franklin Luminaire Committee Co-Chair Steve Drew, Sales Executive-Magazine Group at LSC Communications. “Some 400 industry members attend this event each year, a testament to the strength of our industry and the contributions made by our honorees during their careers.”

Chris Harrold is Vice President and Creative Director at Mohawk Fine Papers in Cohoes, N.Y., where he has responsibility for brand management, strategic market development, and creative direction for the company’s product and marketing campaigns. Harrold joined Mohawk in 1990, holding positions from sales to marketing, and played a pivotal role establishing Mohawk as a market leader in digital printing. He is a Lynda.com author and speaks extensively on the role printing and paper play in design. Harrold holds a bachelor’s degree in art history from the State University of New York Oswego and an MFA degree from the Rochester Institute of Technology College of Imaging Arts & Sciences.

Samir “Mr. Magazine” Husni, Ph.D., is the founder and director of the Magazine Innovation Center at The University of Mississippi. He is also Professor and Hederman Lecturer at the university's School of Journalism and New Media. As Mr. Magazine™, he engages in media consulting and research for the magazine media and publishing industry in the United States and across the globe. Dr. Husni has written books and presented seminars on the future of print in a digital age. His latest book, "Print Proud Digital Smart: The Book of Quotes," was published in March of this year.

Rebecca Pappas is Vice President of Production, Customer Service, and Audience Development at BizBash Media in New York. She previously served as Director of Publisher Relations at Qmags, where she worked with more than 50 publishers to manage the production, distribution, and marketing strategies of the digital editions of some of the industry's largest B2B media companies, and as Director of Circulation & Manufacturing for BZ Media, a multi-title publisher in the IT space, where she worked with the newly formed BPA Worldwide's Digital Task Force to help formulate digital edition audit rules and requirements.

John G. Sommers Jr., President and CEO of Allied Printing Services, Manchester, Conn., grew up in and around his family's business, working through school vacations to learn the printing industry from the "ground up." He studied Business Finance at Stonehill College. After graduation, he joined the family business earlier than planned because his father, company President and CEO, felt that the business needed him to make an immediate impact during the economic recession. He worked in all internal departments at Allied, followed by outside Sales, and was named President in 2011, shortly before his father's untimely passing in 2013. Since that time Allied has grown significantly and consistently reinvested in new equipment and technology under his leadership.

Franklin Luminaire Awards Platinum sponsorships (table of 10) are available at the early bird rate of \$5,500 until August 15th (\$6,500 after that date); Gold sponsorships (half-table of five) are \$2,750 by August 15th (\$3,250 after). Sponsors receive recognition in the printed program and signage, and during the evening's program. Individual tickets are also available at \$400. Visit the event website for sponsorship and registration information, <https://pialliance.org/franklin-luminaire-awards/>

About the Print Drives America Foundation

The [Print Drives America Foundation](#) is a 501(c)(3) charitable foundation sponsored by Printing Industries Alliance. The Print Drives America Foundation is a national advocacy initiative established to meaningfully increase the market share of print. Printing Industries Alliance represents graphic communications firms in New York State, northern New Jersey and northwestern Pennsylvania. Printing Industries Alliance provides a variety of consultative, informational, advocacy and cost-cutting services for member firms throughout its territory.

About the Idealliance Foundation

The Idealliance Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization established by Idealliance in 2005 to advance graphic communications workflows and the next generation of professionals through educational and research initiatives. The Foundation conducts e training materials and programs and directs digital and print tests. The Foundation publishes the widely distributed and definitive Guide to Print Production and directs the annual Franklin Luminaire Awards with the Print Drives America Foundation.

[Idealliance](#) is a global community of more than 1,600 brand owners, agencies, publishers, premedia and print service provider companies, and their material suppliers and technology partners. The not-for-profit industry association provides media creators and technology communities the opportunity to collaborate to craft best practices, advance standards, and certify people, processes and systems to achieve the highest performance in creation, production and delivery of graphic communications whether in print or on mobile platforms.