

Michaels Announces Vendor and Supply Chain Partner of the Year Awards

Top Partners Recognized at Annual Partner Conference

IRVING, Texas, Sept. 10, 2015 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- The [Michaels Companies, Inc.](#) (Nasdaq:MIK), the world's largest arts and crafts specialty retailer, recognized 14 recipients of its Vendor and Supply Chain Partner of the Year Awards at the company's annual partner conference in Dallas on Wednesday, Sept. 9.

"These awards honor the dedicated vendors and suppliers who have demonstrated a commitment to surpassing expectations and continually providing excellence in service, quality and innovation," said The Michaels Companies, Inc., Chairman and CEO Chuck Rubin. "Michaels' success is due in large part to our collaboration with our outstanding partners, and we would like to thank each and every one of them for their dedication to the brand and for helping us provide our customers with quality products that inspire creativity every day."

This year, Executive Vice President of Merchandising Philo Pappas recognized **ColArt** as Michaels' overall Partner of the Year for product innovation, customer inspiration, quality products and efficiency in supply chain. Aaron Brothers General Manager Michelle Ruocco awarded **Pinnacle** as the Aaron Brothers Partner of the Year for its contribution to the growth of Aaron Brothers' frame department. Mike Cairnes, president of Artistree, the frame and moulding manufacturing operation for Michaels and Aaron Brothers stores, named **Nielsen Bainbridge Group** as the Artistree Partner of the Year, recognizing its continuous contribution to the company's custom framing assortment.

Michaels also recognized the following vendors for their dedicated partnership and contributions:

- **Private Brand Partner of the Year**
 - United Chinese Group
 - Unique Treasures
 - Deco Art
- **New Product of the Year**
 - Fujifilm
 - Spin Master
- **Exclusive Product Line of the Year**
 - Premier Yarns
 - Lion Brand Yarns
 - American Crafts
- **Real Estate and Facilities Partner of the Year**
 - Facility Maintenance

As the need for speed-to-market remains critical, Michaels continues to focus on strengthening and improving the efficiency of its supply chain. As a result of this continued focus, the company recognized the supply chain partners who have demonstrated hard work to become a natural extension of Michaels' business by offering innovative solutions. This year, Michaels Executive Vice President of Supply Chain Tom DeCaro honored the following supply chain partners for their contribution to supply chain efficiency.

- **Supply Chain Partners of the Year**
 - Con-way Truckload – Domestic Transportation
 - Hyundai Merchant Marine Co. – International Transportation

About The Michaels Companies, Inc.

The Michaels Companies, Inc., is North America's largest specialty retailer of arts and crafts. As of August 1, 2015, the Company owns and operates 1,186 Michaels stores in 49 states and Canada and 118 Aaron Brothers stores, and produces 12 exclusive private brands including Recollections®, Studio Decor®, Bead Landing®, Creatology®, Ashland®, Celebrate It®, ArtMinds®, Artist's Loft®, Craft Smart®, Loops & Threads®, Imagin8® and Make Market™.

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