



News Release

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U.S. Small Business Administration Announces Annual Award Winners

Pamela Laskey, Owner of Maine Foodie Tours of Portland Receives SBA's Woman Owned Small Business of the Year Award for Maine

Augusta, Maine – The U.S. Small Business Administration is pleased to announce that Pamela Laskey, founder of Maine Foodie Tours in Portland has been selected to receive the Woman Owned Small Business of the Year Award for Maine for 2017.

Maine Foodie Tours was founded in 2009 and has grown to more than twenty employees. The company features educational, entertaining and tasty tours showcasing local, sustainable foods and the rich culinary artistry and entrepreneurial talent in Maine. The company works with restaurant owners, chefs, bakers, chocolatiers, fish handlers, brewers and more to offer amazing food and stories to their guests.

“The story of Pamela Laskey and Maine Foodie Tours perfectly illustrates the entrepreneurial spirit and ingenuity necessary to start and grow a thriving business in Maine,” said SBA’s Maine District Director, Amy K. Bassett. “Pamela has achieved success by bringing together some of the best Maine has to offer. She is truly a role model for all of our aspiring entrepreneurs,” added Bassett.

"I am very honored to receive this award from the SBA," said Ms. Laskey. "I have benefitted from SBA programs like SCORE ever since I started the business in 2009. The success of Maine Foodie Tours has been the result of my partnerships with Maine's amazing culinary artists, some super talented tour guides and managers, and a very appreciative and supportive customer base. I am very grateful to be living and working in Maine," she added. **NOTE: A photo of Pamela Laskey is attached.**

Ms. Laskey was nominated for this award by Nancy Strojny, Chapter Chair of the Portland Chapter of SCORE.

Ms. Laskey will be honored at the 2017 SBA Small Business Awards Celebration on May 15, 2017 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Freeport. For additional information about the event please visit www.sba.gov/me or call Keith Lind at 207-622-8551.



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