

**From:** [David Stark](#)  
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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Bay East Association of REALTORS® Honor Outstanding Members**

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*Pleasanton, California (January 28, 2021)* –Several local real estate professionals have received the Bay East Association of REALTORS®’ (Bay East) highest honors for their achievements during 2020.

This year’s award winners were recognized during the 2021 Bay East virtual Inaugural and Officer Installation event on Jan. 28. Each demonstrated ethical standards and professionalism, active community involvement, and a high level of service to the real estate profession.

### **REALTOR® of the Year**

June Burckhardt with Legacy Real Estate and Associates in Fremont received the REALTOR® of the Year award for demonstrating the highest level of integrity and commitment to Bay East and the real estate profession. Burckhardt has been a Bay East member since 2004 and has served on the Bay East Board of Directors, Bay East Homeownership Opportunities, Bay East Strategic Planning, Bay East Executive and Tri-Cities Marketing committees. She is an active volunteer in her hometown of Fremont where she is a delivery driver for Meals on Wheels, a Harvest Food Bank Coordinator, and works with the annual Adopt an Angel project.

### **Affiliate of the Year**

Leah Nishi with Farmers Insurance in Alameda received the Bay East 2020 Affiliate of the Year Award. Bay East Affiliate members contribute time, money, and resources to support the real estate profession. Nishi is an active member of Alameda Inforum Marketing Meeting (AIMM) and the Bay East Community Relations Committee. She was instrumental in ensuring AIMM meetings continued during the COVID-19 pandemic and is an effective advocate for local businesses. Nishi helped promote a new homelessness service center in the

City of Alameda and secured a \$1,500 grant for the Alameda Education Foundation to purchase school supplies.

### **Outstanding Leader Award**

Jennifer Branchini with Compass Real Estate in Pleasanton received the Outstanding Leader Award. This award is given to a past president of the Association who continues to pursue the vision of excellence in the name of Bay East. Branchini joined Bay East in 1998 and has held a variety of leadership positions at the local, state and national levels. She was instrumental in establishing the Bay East Young Professional Network (YPN) and led the California Association of REALTORS® YPN forum. Branchini was honored as the 2010 REALTOR® of the Year, served as the 2014 Bay East President and is serving as the 2020/2021 C.A.R. Treasurer. She was previously recognized as the Bay East Outstanding Leader in 2017.

### **John Deadrich Distinguished Service Award**

For the first time, three Bay East members, Past President Nancie Allen, President-Elect Sheila Cunha, and Treasurer Steve Medeiros, received the John A. Deadrich Distinguished Service Award for their extraordinary contributions to Bay East during 2020. Named in honor of Bay East's first president, this award is traditionally given to a single Bay East member who exemplifies the self-sacrifice, vision, and accomplishments of the greatest leaders who have shaped the real estate profession. This year, three dedicated Bay East members are receiving the award. In May, 2020, in order to help Bay East navigate the challenges facing the real estate profession during the COVID-19 pandemic, Allen, Cunha, and Medeiros all agreed to serve a second year in their respective roles which doubled the amount of time and effort they would be contributing as Bay East leaders. Their commitment to leadership during an uncertain year for the real estate profession helped ensure Bay East was able to provide crucial services and products to its members as well as serve as a powerful and effective advocate for homeownership.

### **Good Neighbor of the Year**

Louise Lovewell with RE/Max Accord in Castro Valley received the Good Neighbor Award. This award recognizes a Bay East member making a positive contribution to their communities. Lovewell has been a Bay East member for more than 40 years. In 1986 she helped found Building Futures for Women and Children, a shelter program for homeless women and children. She also volunteers with Western Service Workers Association, Washington Elementary School, Dig Deep Farms and St. Leander Church. Bay East contributed \$500 to Building Futures for Women and Children and \$500 Dig Deep Farms in her honor.

## **About the Bay East Association of REALTORS®**

The Bay East Association of REALTORS® is a professional trade association serving more than 5,800 residential and commercial real estate professionals throughout the San Francisco Bay Area by providing programs and services to enhance their ability to conduct business with integrity and competence. Bay East offers access to the Multiple Listing Service, professional development training, advocacy to protect private property rights, and promotes homeownership and a variety of networking opportunities and events.

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