

A Spirit of Cooperation: IFRA NA Celebrates Dave Carroll & Steve Tanner

“Tonight is a celebration of fragrance’s contribution to our economy and quality of life,” said John Vernieri (Givaudan), chairman of the International Fragrance Association, North America (IFRA NA).

Vernieri delivered his comments to the more than 250 attendees of IFRA NA’s spring dinner, during which Dave Carroll received the Special Lifetime Achievement Award and Steve Tanner (Arylessence) received the Eric Bruell Distinguished Service Award.

In his introduction, Vernieri underscored the organization’s importance amidst changing industry dynamics. The decisions being made today will impact the next 30 or 40 years of the fragrance industry, he argued. Allergen regulations and disclosure pressure, for instance, demand that the industry work proactively together, he noted. He then concluded his remarks by introducing a video displaying the vast array of benefits the fragrance industry delivers to consumers and communities around the world.

Dave Carroll received the Special Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his contributions to numerous organizations and committees, including IFRA global, Fragrance Materials Association (FMA, now IFRA NA), Flavor and Extract Manufacturers Association, Research Institute for Fragrance Materials (RIFM), European Flavor & Fragrance Association, and the European Federation of Essential Oils.

Carroll’s career has included positions at Colgate-Palmolive Co., Bush Boake Allen and, later, IFF, and a consultancy relationship with Mastertaste (now Kerry).

A U.S. Navy veteran, Carroll explained to the dinner attendees that he has always fostered a spirit of collaboration and knowledge sharing. He has mentored, he said, because he was mentored as a nascent industry professional.

In this spirit, Carroll has spent his three decades in the flavor and fragrance industry helping navigate technical and regulatory challenges.

Kim Bleimann, chairman and CEO of Berjé, Inc., and member of the board of directors of IFRA NA, highlighted



Dave Carroll



Steve Tanner

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—John Vernieri, chairman, International Fragrance Association, North America

the contributions of Steve Tanner, recipient of the Eric Bruell Distinguished Service Award. Bleimann praised Tanner’s focus on quality standards, intellectual property protection and more.

Tanner, president of Arylessence, echoed Carroll’s sentiments when he spoke of the award’s namesake. Bruell, Tanner explained, showed faith in Arylessence in its early days. It was this faith and good will that, in part, helped make the company’s growth and success possible. Bruell, in short, was “a one-man industry organization” who made it possible for

individual organizations and the industry at large to grow. It was precisely this sense of industry cooperation that Tanner said he hoped to continue.

Following Bruell’s legacy of community, fellowship and giving back, Tanner has served a range of organizations, including the American Cleaning Institute, Consumer Specialty Products Association, FMA and RIFM.

Tanner is a U.S. Army veteran, serving in Asia and Europe, and was awarded the Bronze Star for Valor with an Oak Leaf Cluster. He serves as a business school adviser for Georgia State University and has cofounded, with Gail Tanner, the Arylessence Foundation, which serves families dealing with autism.

Of the IFRA NA honor, Tanner said, “This is a great honor, which I am very proud to accept. I believe everyone in the fragrance industry has a role to play, not only in promoting the enjoyment of beautifully fragranced products by consumers, but also in advancing the innovative science and research that makes our fragrances safe for people and the environment.”

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