

Congratulations to the 2014 SIM Leaders of the Year!

The SIM Leader of the Year Award recognizes members who contributed to the growth, advancement, and excellence of SIM at the local, national and/or international levels. In addition, the award provides a vehicle for SIM to highlight member service in our local and broader communities.

All the nominees were exceptionally strong and the judges felt it especially difficult to choose a winner this year. This year's winners are **Keri Pearlson** of the Austin Area Chapter and **Steve Pickett** of the Detroit Chapter. Five finalists were also commended for their contributions to SIM and will be receiving an award: Judy Arteche-Carr of New York Metro, Dave Chatterjee of Atlanta, June Drewry of Central Florida, Jana Markowitz of Memphis, and Kevin Schwesinger of New Jersey.

Keri Pearlson of KP Partners was nominated by her colleagues in Austin for being an inspirational leader to everyone. Her contributions to her chapter and SIM International can be summed up as a combination of strategy, community building and most importantly, operational excellence. Over the past three years, Keri has worked diligently on establishing the Austin chapter and did everything required to build the organization from the ground up. She has built bridges between members, programs and community outreach, while establishing important links to SIM International. Keri's nomination demonstrated the fact that she is incredibly admired and her outstanding leadership and dedication has not gone unnoticed.

Long time SIM member **Steve Pickett**, Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer at Penske Corporation, has accomplished much during his many years of service to SIM. Steve has fully and actively engaged in SIM, both locally and nationally, for many years, taking on multiple leadership roles and being a publicly visible spokesperson for SIM and for the IT profession. He has also initiated some of his chapter's most notable efforts, dedicating himself to growing Detroit's philanthropy efforts. Steve is a big supporter of SIM's two largest programs, the Advanced Practices Council and the Regional Leadership Forum. He was named APC Member of the Quarter for Q1 2013. Additionally, Steve actively supports SIM's Regional Leadership Forum, sending candidates to the RLF year after year.

Keri, Steve and the five finalists will all be honored at SIMposium on Monday, November 3rd during lunch.