



BTA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Celebrating 40 Years of Excellence & Giving

On Nov. 14, The Cannata Report celebrated a remarkable milestone during its 40th Anniversary Awards & Charities Gala, which was held at The Madison Hotel in Morristown, New Jersey. The event honored the legacy of the late Mike McGuirk, founder of ProCopy Office Solutions and a former Business Technology Association (BTA) volunteer (who served as president and vice president of BTA West, as well as a BTA West representative on the national BTA Board of Directors), with proceeds supporting diabetes research at the Inserra Family Diabetes Institute at Hackensack Meridian Hackensack University Medical Center. To date, The Cannata Report has raised more than \$1.75 million for the Hackensack Meridian Health Foundation and more than \$3.5 million for charitable causes nationwide.



I was honored to attend this exceptional event — alongside BTA Marketing Director Valerie Briseno — proudly representing BTA and celebrating the innovation, generosity and leadership that continue to shape our industry.

The evening began with a comedy performance by Larry Weiss, chairman of BTA member Atlantic, Tomorrow's Office, and sponsored by HP. Hytec and TD SYNEX were platinum sponsors, with ConnectWise, Distribution Management, First Citizens Bank and Katun as gold sponsors, and Nexera and Static Control as silver sponsors. The energy carried into the night with the Official After Party, sponsored by Xerox. BTA Ambassador Bob Goldberg once again served as a dynamic and engaging emcee.

A memorable highlight of the night was the auction of the top five albums of 1985, each signed by the original artists, which

sparked excitement and raised additional charitable funds.

The Frank Awards were also presented at the gala, recognizing companies and leaders chosen by office technology dealers nationwide. "The Frank Awards shine a spotlight on the innovative companies ... setting new standards of excellence," said CJ Cannata, president and CEO of The Cannata Report. The winners included:

■ **Best-in-Class:** Sharp Imaging and Information Company of America

■ **Best Diversification Partner:** Intermedia Cloud Communications

■ **Best Production Print Manufacturer:** Ricoh USA

■ **Best Marketing Strategy:** Ricoh USA

■ **Best IT and Security Services Provider:** ConnectWise

■ **Best Print Management Software Provider:** ACDI and PaperCut

■ **Best Technical Service Provider:** Sharp Imaging and Information Company of America

■ **Best ECM/Document Management Software Provider:** DocuWare

■ **Best A4 Manufacturer:** Kyocera Document Solutions America

■ **Best Leasing Company:** GreatAmerica Financial Services

■ **Excellence in Innovation:** Ricoh USA

■ **Best Manufacturer:** Sharp Imaging and Information Company of America

■ **Best Female Executive:** Laura Blackmer, Konica Minolta Business Solutions

■ **Best Male Executive:** Larry White, Toshiba America Business Solutions

The event concluded the following morning with the inspiring Women Influencers Brunch, an empowering close to a meaningful industry celebration. I'd like to give a special thanks to Frank, Carol and CJ Cannata for hosting this extraordinary event. ■

— Debra Dennis



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