



Kalahari Resorts & Conventions' Brian Shanle Named General Manager of the Year
Shanle recognized as top performer by the Ohio Hotel & Lodging Association (OHLA)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sandusky, OH (December 16, 2024) – Brian Shanle of [Kalahari Resorts & Conventions](#) was recently named General Manager of the Year at the 2024 OHLA Annual Conference & Gala held at the Champion Mill Conference Center in late November. Shanle was celebrated for demonstrating exceptional leadership throughout his 16 years at Kalahari in Sandusky, helping both his team and the community reach new heights.

“We are thrilled that Brian has been recognized as General Manager of the year,” said Jerry Simon, Kalahari Resorts and Conventions Director of Sales. “This achievement added yet another wonderful chapter to his Kalahari adventure, and we could not be more proud of his accomplishments.”

Kalahari provides guests with a beyond expectations experience and Shanle has played an instrumental role in delivering that promise as he has overseen the property, guest services, financial performance, operations, sales and events. Under Shanle’s leadership, the resort has reached new heights, garnering over half a million guest stays annually and fostering a collaborative team of more than 1,000 year-round associates.

“In Brian, we found not just a General Manager, but a leader who embodies stability, growth, maturity and true leadership,” said Kara Hanko, Kalahari Resorts and Conventions Corporate Public Relations Manager. “His impact has not only transformed our resort, it has set a benchmark for excellence within our industry.”

Recognizing areas for brand growth and inclusivity is another area where Shanle shines. He opened Kalahari’s first [Calming Room](#) and acquired a Sensory Friendly Hotel Certification, these initiatives have now been adopted across Kalahari’s three other resort locations and serves as a testament to his forward-thinking approach.

Shanle's contributions and dedication to the community extends beyond the resort. His involvement in mission trips and commitment to bettering those around him reflects the compassionate leadership he brings to work every day.

Photos from the event can be viewed [here](#).

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About Kalahari Resorts and Conventions

Kalahari Resorts and Conventions in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin, Sandusky, Ohio, the Pocono Mountains, Pennsylvania, Round Rock, Texas, and opening soon in Spotsylvania County, Virginia, deliver a beyond-expectations waterpark resort and conference experience all under one roof. The African-inspired Kalahari Resorts, privately owned by the Nelson family, are home to America's Largest Indoor Waterparks. Todd and Shari Nelson, the founders of Kalahari Resorts, were honored with an induction into the Wisconsin Business Hall of Fame in 2023. All Kalahari Resorts feature well-appointed guest rooms and suites, the full-service Spa Kalahari, a fun-filled family entertainment center, on-site signature restaurants, unique retail shops and a state-of-the-art convention center. For more information, members of the media are encouraged to visit kalaharimedia.com.