

AGTAnews

American Gem Trade Association

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Douglas Hucker Honored with Prestigious Robert M. Shipley Award



Courtesy of the American Gem Society

(Nashville, TN) - Douglas K. Hucker, CEO of the American Gem Trade Association (AGTA) was named the 2018 recipient of the Robert M. Shipley Award, the most prestigious award given by the American Gem Society (AGS). The awards ceremony took place on Wednesday, April 25th during the AGS Conclave in Nashville, TN. Hucker received the award to honor his commitment to the jewelry industry and for his friendship and service to the Society.

Longtime friend and former business partner, Mark Moeller, made the presentation to Hucker, saying "I cannot imagine a more worthy recipient of the Shipley Award." As he took the stage amongst past winners of the Shipley Award, including Ruth Batson, Cathy Calhoun and Cos Altobelli, Hucker said "it was one of the few times in my life I was literally speechless," and noted that this was the "best Conclave ever!"

"Adding Doug Hucker to the list of distinguished recipients is the right thing to do and just great! This industry, AGS and AGTA have been his life. Whether working for himself or for others, he's always paying it forward for the good of all," shared Jeffrey Bilgore, AGTA President. "Here at AGTA, Doug always looks out for the best interests of the members, the Association and the trade - that's no easy task. We are so proud for Doug and his family!"

With a background as an educator and an estate and antique jewelry expert, Hucker joined AGTA in 1997. As CEO of the colored gemstone and cultured pearl trade association, Hucker has been instrumental in the continued growth of its membership; the international outreach and special project efforts including Tanzania, Burma and India; and the continued growth and success of the association's GemFairs in Tucson and Las Vegas.

"This was one of the proudest moments in my career," shared Hucker. "I am grateful for this honor and grateful for all that AGS has meant to me in my career."

About American Gem Trade Association:

The American Gem Trade Association is a not-for-profit Association serving the natural colored gemstone and cultured pearl industry since 1981. The AGTA serves the industry as "The Authority in Color" and has its headquarter office in Dallas, TX

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