

# WAYZATA AREA CHAMBER

## 2022 Star Award Winners

### ***Sandvold Financial Group | Blake Sandvold***

Thanks to Sandvold Financial Group for their dedication and commitment to the Chamber and community. Sandvold sponsors every community event, on the street making connections, and they stepped up BIG this year as Presenting Partner for James J. Hill Days. Blake Sandvold is Board Chair for The Wayzata Conservancy and this fall; the City and Wayzata Conservancy unveiled the "Sandvold Lakeshore Learning Center" at the iconic Section Foreman's House on Wayzata Bay. When restored, it will provide a sustained use of this beloved historic landmark, what an impact! Thank you to Blake, the Sandvold team and family for your everyday involvement and leaving a legacy for Wayzata and the surrounding community for generations to come!

### ***Brian Larson***

Positive. Upbeat. Committed. These are just a few words we use to describe Brian Larson. Brian is a successful financial advisor at Morgan Stanley, but we think what really makes him shine is his volunteering and service to the community he lives and works in. As chair of the Wayzata Art Experience committee for 5 years, he has led the committee and event to surpass its goals and become one of Lake Minnetonka's favorite events. But Brian doesn't stop there. He signs up for Wavemaker volunteer shifts at almost every event – not only volunteering himself, but he makes it a family affair with his wife, and kids. He is a past Chamber Board of Director and active Rotarian. Brian, we appreciate all you do for this Chamber and community - Thank you!

### ***Otten Bros. Garden Center & Landscaping | Chris Jordan***

Otten Bros is a staple in the Wayzata/Long Lake community – planted in 1953 and still growing strong! Whenever we are looking to dress up our community events, we put in a request to pick up some beautiful hanging baskets – and the answer is always "yes"! The baskets and assortment of flowers add such a beautiful touch to the events and there are always compliments from attendees. In addition to the flowers shared during summer events, Otten has donated straw bales for the charming coaster cart derby at James J. Hill Days as well as evergreens to cozy up the winter months on Panoway. Here today is Chris Jordan, Garden Center Manager. Thank you, Chris, and to your team for always saying Yes!

### ***Lesla Fenwick***

Lesla's years of engagement with the community far exceed what you would guess considering her youthfulness and energy! She is the owner of Candlelight Floral and passionate about serving her community! A long-standing Chamber member, community event volunteer (bringing friends along to volunteer, and kills it in the Beer & Wine Tent), and she generously helps to bring floral beauty to our member events. Lesla is a Wayzata Lions member ensuring the club volunteers at events, including Letters to Santa, and new this year, "Weiner's Circle" awards for the Dachshund races at JJHD. These are some of our favorites, but others have noticed as evidenced by Lesla's recent recognition for her community involvement and advancement of women from the TeamWomen organization. Lesla, we are grateful, and thank you for all you do!

### ***Wayzata Historical Society | Aaron Person***

The Wayzata Historical Society, along with their volunteers, are co-occupants of The Wayzata Depot with the Chamber and they are treasurers to the community! Aside from the wealth of historical knowledge they have and share at their locations, during tours, and programs, they also provide a (almost) year-round welcoming presence to visitors. Whether a community event or summer weekend, if there are people in town interested in our history or have a question, they are happy to share and help! This year they celebrated their 40th Anniversary and they continue to expand their impact and outreach around Lake Minnetonka thanks to their dedicated Board led by Aaron Person Chair who has been a great advocate for the organization, The Depot and great community partner. Thank you, Aaron, for your passion to serve the community and its history!