



news

for Excellence



Retail - Fewer than 15 stores

Susan Eisen founded Susan Eisen Fine Jewelry and Watches in 1980 as a goldsmith and jewelry designer. Her credentials include Graduate Gemologist, GIA, Certified Gemologist Appraiser, AGS, and Master Gemologist Appraiser, American Society of Appraisers. To help people become better jewelry consumers, she wrote a book entitled "Crazy About Jewelry, The Expert Guide to Buying, Selling and Caring for Your Jewelry."

In addition to the Hall of Fame and Ben Kaiser Awards, WJA presented Awards for Excellence in eight industry categories.

Dinner co-chairs Lisa Cochin and Mindy Fielman acknowledged the sponsors for WJA's annual dinner, including:

Jewelers Mutual, Platinum International, AGL GCAL, Sterling Jewelers, Hearts on Fire, JCK Events, JCK Publishing, Rio Tinto, Andin International, Carrera Casting, Johnson



Retail - More than 15 stores

As Senior Vice President of Field Operations at Sterling **Tryna Kochanek** oversees the development of initiatives that meet the diverse needs of today's jewelry consumers, leading more than 17,000 sales and repair shop team members who have helped make Sterling the number one specialty retail jeweler in the country.

Matthey, GIA, Olympic Diamond, Richline Group, Inc. and many others.

A lively silent auction superbly organized by Pamela Palmieri, the auction chair, and her committee featured dozens and dozens of items that attracted hundreds of bidders.

Monies from the silent auction, along with scholarships set up by individuals and companies, support WJA's annual Student Scholarship Program and provide member grants for educational purposes.



Sales

Janet Goldman is the founder and creative force behind Fragments which represents over 35 fashion and fine jewelry designers serving over 6,000 retail outlets, here and abroad. She is an artistic entrepreneur whose passion and vision have set the trends in the jewelry and accessory industries for over 20 years.



Marketing/Communications

With advanced degrees in education, human resources management, and organizational development, **Diane Warg-Arias** has helped thousands of luxury brands. She has been a long-term consultant for the Diamond Trading Company and their advertising agency of record, JWT.