

#SmileStarter #SmileStartersShine #HappinessHappens #SmileStarterAward #HHM2019

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

# TO KICK OFF the 20<sup>th</sup> HAPPINESS HAPPENS MONTH, THE SOCIETY OF HAPPY PEOPLE UNVEILS FIRST 39 SMILE STARTERS

List of honorees include popular people, places and pop culture that start smiles for millions around the world

DALLAS, TX – July 17, 2019 – To launch their pledge to identify One Million Smile Starters as part of their 20<sup>th</sup> Happiness Happens Month that will be celebrated next month, the Society of Happy People is pleased to announce their first 39 Smile Starter Award recipients. Honorees include celebrities, special places, sports teams, favorite TV shows and everyday people, with ages ranging from Archie Mountbatten-Windsor to Betty White.

"Our thirty-nine award winners start smiles for thousands, even millions of people. This creates a smile chain that's paid forward because that first smile can cause someone else to smile and on down the line," explained Pamela Gail Johnson, founder of the Society of Happy People who has studied happiness for the past 20 years. "Smiles are contagious, and we want to recognize as many Smile Starters as possible – especially during Happiness Happens Month."

## In alphabetical order, the 39 Smile Starter honorees are:

Lori Alan	Massachusetts	Sesame Street
Chef José Andrés	Kate McKinnon	Sheldrick Wildlife Trust
W. Kamau Bell	Lin-Manuel Miranda	Maria Shriver
Kelly Clarkson	Indya Moore	Robert F. Smith
Stephen Colbert	Jeanne Moos	Mira Sorvino
James Corden	National Comedy Center	Ali Stroker
Finland	Bill Nye	Chrissy Teigen
Gilbert Gottfried's Amazing Colossal Podcast	Octo Spelling Bee Champs	The Comedy Show (UK)
Hallmark Channel	Dolly Parton	The Ellen Show
Jazz Jennings	Pharrell	Toronto Raptors
Dwayne (The Rock) Johnson	Randy Rainbow	US Women's National Soccer Team
Jonas Brothers	Keanu Reeves	Betty White
Mindy Kaling	Dr. Lori Santos	Archie Mountbatten-Windsor
Howie Mandel		

Here's the Smile Starters Awardees list and the reason they have been selected as an honoree this year: https://sohp.com/smile-starter-awardees-2019/

However, the most important smile starters are the people who make you smile, so everyone can become a Smile Starter Award Presenter and help the Society reach their goal of recognizing one million Smile Starters.

To recognize someone who warms your heart, a TV show that makes you laugh, or a special place that brings you joy, visit <a href="https://sohp.com/hhm2019/">https://sohp.com/hhm2019/</a> to get free Smile Starter Award graphics that you can share with your personal Smile Starters.

"Can you imagine a world filled with one million people who've been told they make the world a better place because they made you smile?" added Johnson, "How uplifting would it be if more people spent time focusing on starting smiles for others?"

The Society of Happy People has thousands of happy members in 45 countries around the world. To become a member or to learn more about their 20<sup>th</sup> annual Happiness Happens Month, visit www.sohp.com.

## **About the Society of Happy People**

Founded on August 8, 1989 by Pamela Gail Johnson as the Secret Society of Happy People, the since-renamed Society of Happy People is a group of people that celebrates being happy, focuses on making the world a better place by sharing uplifting news, and helps others find more happiness.

Grounded on Pamela's four key Practical Happiness Principles (Happiness Zappers Zap Everyone, Happiness is Personal, Happiness Changes as You Change, and Happiness is Bigger Than You Think), the Society has identified 31 Types of Happiness and provides a Happiness Counter to make it easier to recognize moments of happiness. A variety of free and paid membership options are available.

#### **Contact:**

Pamela Gail Johnson Society of Happy People (469) 358-3914

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