



A NEW CENTER RISING

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## **Cobo Center sales manager receives “Best Supplier” award**

Jennifer Berkemeier from Cobo Center receives Best Supplier Hall of Fame award from Michigan Meetings and Events magazine

DETROIT May 20, 2013 -- Thom Connors, SMG regional vice president and general manager of Cobo Center announced today that Jennifer Berkemeier, catering and special events sales manager, was awarded the “Best Supplier” award from Michigan Meetings and Events magazine for her work at Cobo Center, during their annual Readers’ Choice Best Of award campaign. The awards are designed to honor the cream of the crop in the regional meetings and events industry. The magazine’s readers determine the winners.

“We recruited Jen, knowing that she came to us with the credentials and experience to handle the event for the customer from start to finish,” said Connors. “With our new 40,000 square-foot Grand Ballroom opening in September, she has already begun to put Cobo at the forefront of special event promotions in the Michigan region. She goes above and beyond to put the customer first.”

Berkemeier sits on numerous local boards, including the Michigan Meeting Planners International Board of Directors where she is Vice President of Membership. In 2011, she won the Outstanding Volunteer and Leadership Award from MMPI, and in 2010 was named the Detroit Regional Chamber Ambassador of the Year.

“I can’t think of a higher honor than receiving the Hall of Fame Award for Best Supplier from Michigan Meetings and Events Magazine. I feel nothing but gratitude to my industry peers for their support, advice and encouragement through the years. I am appreciative of the opportunities I’ve had and look forward to many more years in the Michigan meetings industry.”

**About Cobo Center:** With 723,000 square feet of exhibit space, Cobo Center boasts one of the largest contiguous exhibit floor spaces in North America and is the 19th largest convention center in the country. Visit online at [www.cobocenter.com](http://www.cobocenter.com)

**About SMG:** Since 1977, SMG has provided management services to more than 220 public assembly facilities including arenas, stadiums, theatres and performing arts centers, equestrian facilities and convention, congress and exhibition centers. Visit [www.smgworld.com](http://www.smgworld.com) for more information.

**About the DRCFA:** On 9/15/09, operational control of Cobo Center transferred to the Detroit Regional Convention Facility Authority, under a collaborative agreement by the Michigan State Legislature, the City of Detroit, and Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. Each of these entities has an appointed member on the DRCFA Board. Larry Alexander is Chairman the Board as the member appointed by the Governor of the State of Michigan. For more information visit: <http://www.drdfa.org/>