

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE

SCAE's core mission is to 'Inspire Coffee Excellence' around the world, an objective that it would not be able to achieve without the support of members and volunteers at ground level. At the Nordic World of Coffee in Gothenburg the Association honoured those who strive to make a difference in the global coffee community.

Proudly sponsored by Demus S.p.A., the annual SCAE Excellence Awards are judged by the SCAE International Development Committee and honour members who have contributed to the success of the industry through education, innovation, sustainability and entrepreneurship.

David Veal, Executive Director, SCAE, explains: 'The SCAE Excellence Awards, sponsored by Demus S.p.A., recognise the achievement of members within the coffee community, rewarding the passion and commitment of those who work tirelessly to grow and improve our industry. Through these Awards each year we honour those who have the courage, the imagination, and the drive to make a difference in the global coffee community regardless of rank or place.'

The Awards were presented on Wednesday, 17 June at the Nordic World of Coffee. The 2015 winners are:



Pictured at the presentation of the SCAE Excellence Awards were Colin Smith, Yves Clyford Desobgo Nguepi, Konstantinos Kostantinopoulos, Patrick O'Malley, Mathias Nabutele, Max Fabian and Heinz Trachsel

Young Entrepreneur Award

This award is presented to a young and enthusiastic member of the coffee industry who has shown drive, determination and perseverance in their field to be successful in the coffee trade.

Winner: Konstantinos Kostantinopoulos, Chief Executive of Coffee Island

Since joining Coffee Island as Production Manager in 2010, Konstantinos Kostantinopoulos has risen to the top of the company, doubling Coffee Island in size, introducing it to new markets and becoming Europe's seventh biggest coffee chain in the process.

Konstantinos, who has a background in mechanical engineering and aeronautics, has embraced the coffee industry with vigour over the last six years. Today he holds the SCAE Coffee Diploma, he is an Authorised SCAE Trainer of Barista, Brewing, Green Coffee, Sensory and Roasting modules, he is certified as a National Judge and he serves as National Coordinator of SCAE Hellas.

He regularly travels to farms around the world, rolling out Coffee Island's Microfarm Project, a direct trade programme. Under his stewardship Coffee Island roasts more than 720 tonnes of premium and speciality coffee per year, and has a network of 256 coffee shops.

Passionate Educator Award

This award is presented to an individual who has made a concerted effort to communicate to others the wonderful pleasure that coffee can bring us.

Winner: Patrick O'Malley, International Barista & Coffee Academy (IBCA), Espresso Italia, Infusion Coffee + Tea, and LiquidTech Coffee Services

Patrick O'Malley is as close to a 'Professor of Coffee' as one can get. A native of Arizona, USA, he fell in love with coffee in the early years of his career in the hospitality industry and went on to found Espresso Italia in 1999, an importer of fine Italian coffee, espresso machines and grinders. He later expanded the empire with Infusion Fine Tea, a supplier of artisan teas, and LiquidTech, the service arm of the business.

Patrick became just the 43rd person in the world to achieve SCAE's Coffee Diploma in 2012 and his passion for coffee education led him to establish the International Barista & Coffee Academy (IBCA) in Tempe, Arizona, where he provides training in SCAE's Introduction to Coffee, Barista Skills, Green Coffee, Sensory Skills, Roasting and Brewing modules.

He is an Authorised SCAE Trainer, Master Roaster, Tea Sommelier and International Judge and a key supporter of SCAE's Coffee Diploma System, regularly flying around the world to provide training.



Max Fabian of Demus S.p.A, SCAE Excellence Awards sponsor

Innovation Award

This award is presented to an individual or organisation that has successfully produced a new and innovative means of promoting the quality of coffee.

Winner: Yves Clyford Desobgo Nguepi, Demus S.p.A.

Demus S.p.A.'s R&D Manager, Yves Clyford Desobgo Nguepi, holds a Ph.D in Chemical Engineering. He has worked with the faculty of Chemical Engineering at the University of Trieste, researching the extraction of substances using carbon dioxide (CO2) at supercritical state. He is a coffee innovator and has recently conducted exciting research into, and the execution of, an alternative water decaffeination process using activated charcoal at Demus S.p.A. and Demus Lab.

Working Towards Sustainability

The Working Towards Sustainability award is presented to a smallholder, estate, cooperative, mill or farm in an origin country that has worked to adapt traditional farming or coffee preparation methods in an effort to improve the environment and help sustain the industry.

Winner: Mathias Nabutele, Coffee A Cup

Coffee A Cup has worked diligently to try and prevent landslides in Uganda that have killed hundreds through the reforestation

of areas around Mount Elgon. The organisation also encourages collective conservation of the environment through the different farmer groups. Farmers are encouraged to plant shade trees on their farms that improve soil fertility and provide an additional source of income when they mature. Coffee A Cup is also embarking on a new project to provide 13,000 cooking stoves which will reduce wood consumption and help reduce respiratory diseases by making kitchens healthier.

Lifetime Achievement Award

The Lifetime Achievement Award is a special award presented by SCAE each year to an individual from the coffee industry that has furthered the interests of the coffee community by promoting the concept of quality coffee in a statesmanlike manner.



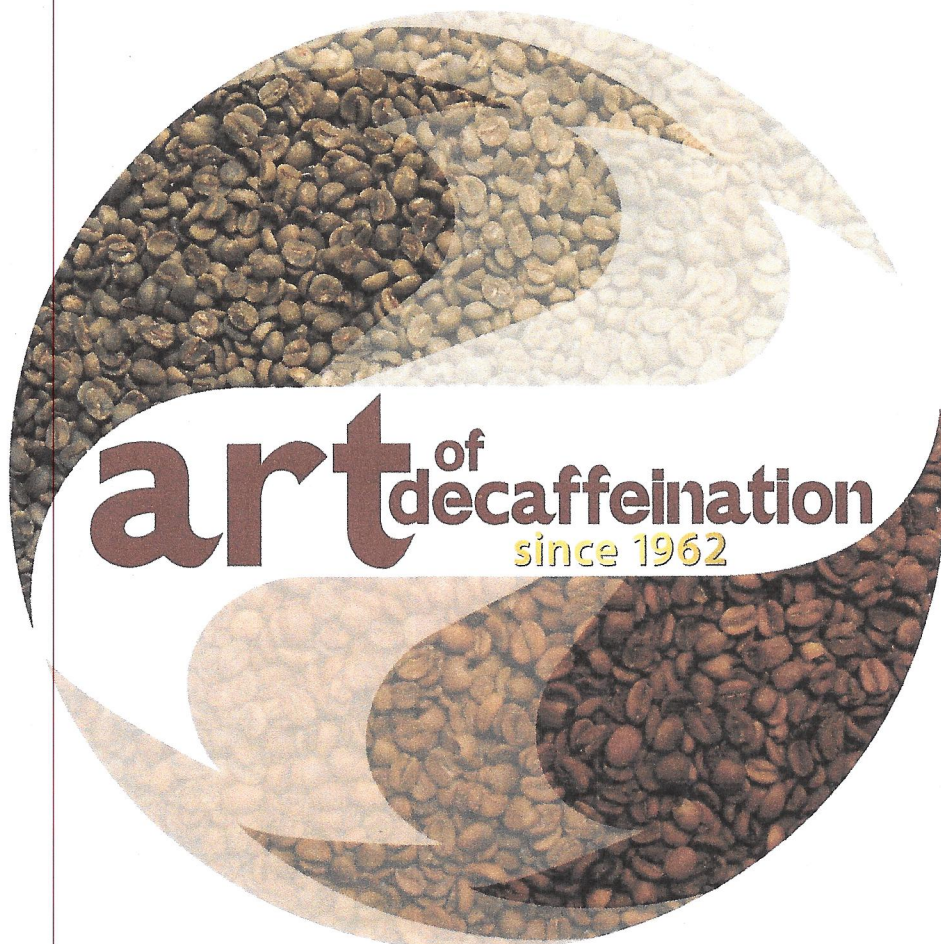
Heinz Trachsel, winner of the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award

Winner: Heinz Trachsel

Heinz Trachsel has dedicated much of his career to inspiring excellence in coffee. He spent 40 years working in the industry, spearheading domestic and international marketing and sales of fully automatic professional Swiss espresso coffee machines.

A SCAE member for over a decade, Heinz served as Swiss National Coordinator from 2006-2012, leading the local organisation team for World of Coffee Berne in 2006. He was voted 'National Coordinator of the Year' in 2010, became a member of the Education Committee in 2009 and he is a co-creator of the Coffee Diploma System. Heinz has been a constant ally of the Association since he joined in 2004, serving as a board member since 2012, vice chair of the Membership Committee, and the Regional Coordinator for Switzerland, Germany and Austria from 2012-2014.

'Heinz has been a passionate supporter of the Speciality Coffee Association of Europe, contributing significantly to the development of our education programme, among other initiatives. We are hugely grateful for the time and expertise he has offered the Association over the past decade,' said David Veal. »



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