

2026 GALA HONOREE

DAVID DIRECTOR

CEO

Connecticut Lighting Centers

For over 40 years, David has served in many leadership capacities for the American Lighting Association and has been presented with the Association's Leadership Award, National Showroom Excellence in Education Award, and the President's Award. David is also an ALA Certified Lighting Consultant and has represented the industry on national energy conservation issues.

David is involved in a wide range of community activities and serves on several boards. He is a corporator of Middlesex Hospital. He serves as the co-chair for the Rushford Center's Golf Tournament and is the founder and past co-chair of the Interfaith Golf Tournament.

David is currently on the board of Liberty Bank, Chair of the Rushford Foundation, Connecticut Retail Merchants Association, and co-chair of the Council of Business Partners at the Community Foundation of Middlesex County. David is a board member of the Home Builders & Remodelers Association of The Connecticut River Region. In 2010, David was a founding board member of the Home Builders Association of Hartford County's Charitable Foundation Board. David serves on the Board of Lighting One.

David was one of four people in 2012 in the country to receive the national Beta Gamma Sigma's Entrepreneurship Medallion Award, a prestigious award given to a small national group of outstanding individuals who combine innovative business achievement with service to humanity. He has also received the following awards: The 2012 Industry Leadership Award presented by Residential Lighting, The Whitney M. Young, Jr. Service Award presented by the Scout reach Committee of the Connecticut Rivers Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Israel Bonds-Independence Issue Award, a multiple time winner of the Home Builders Association of Connecticut Distinguished Service Award, Hartford County Home Builders Associate of the Year, the Rushford Center's Friends of Rushford Award and Community Spirit Award, Middlesex Chamber of Commerce's Distinguished Citizen Award, Accolades Award for Giving by the Harford Business Journal and the American Lung Association, Franklin Avenue Merchants Association Businessman of the Year Award, Quinnipiac University's Distinguished Alumni Award, the Connecticut Small Business Association's Jeffrey Butland Family Owned Business of the Year Award, the Connecticut Retail Merchants Association Retailer of the Year 2010 and two awards from the Boy Scouts of America in 2011; the Good Scout Award and the James E. West Fellowship Award, the Lighting One's National Member of the Year Award in 2015, the 2016 Humanitarian Award, the Local Leaders, Local Legends 2016 Leadership Award presented by the Community Foundation of Middlesex County, the 2016 Middlesex United Way Community Service Award, the 2017 Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters Arthur Director Memorial Award, 2018 Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters Visionary Leader Award and most recently the Southington Chamber of Commerce 2024 Industry Leader of the Year. David was inducted into the Home Builders and Remodelers Associations CT River Region Housing Hall of Fame in 2024.

David graduated cum laude from Quinnipiac University in 1981 with a Bachelor of Science in Marketing. He was a member of Delta Mu Delta Honor Society and was selected to "Who's Who in American Colleges" in 1981. David resides in Cromwell with his wife of over 40 years, Carol, and has three children – Todd, Jenna, and Brett and four grandchildren.