

Cohlene Heskey Selected as Top Senior Director of the Decade

The International Association of Top Professionals (IAOTP) will honor Cohlene Heskey at their Annual Awards Gala in Miami

NEW YORK, NY, UNITED STATES, October 28, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The International Association of [Top Professionals](#) (IAOTP), a leading global professional organization known for its prestigious annual [awards gala](#) and exclusive vetting process, just recently selected [Cohlene Heskey](#) as Top Senior Director of the Decade.

While inclusion with the International Association of Top Professionals is an honor in itself, only one professional is selected for this distinction. Cohlene Heskey is being recognized for her over 16 years of leadership experience in human resources, talent strategy, and organizational development. She will receive this recognition at IAOTP's Award Gala in December in NYC at the Plaza Hotel.

www.iaotp.com/award-gala



With over 16 years of progressive leadership experience in human resources, talent strategy, and organizational development, Cohlene has established herself as an innovative and impactful leader. As a dynamic, results-driven executive, she currently serves as the Senior Director of Organizational Development, Talent Management, and Culture at FINRA, where she leads enterprise-wide initiatives that strengthen leadership, enrich workplace culture, drive team effectiveness, and implement integrated talent strategies for more than 4,000 employees. Cohlene recently launched her leadership coaching practice as CEO & Founder of Torch & Lead Consulting, LLC. With an unwavering commitment to develop leaders, advance enterprise talent strategies, and people development, Cohlene continues to make a significant impact in shaping future-ready organizations.

Ms. Heskey's current and previous roles include her current position at FINRA (Financial Industry

Regulatory Authority), where, since September 2024, she has overseen a team responsible for delivering organizational development, talent management processes, and strategic culture initiatives. From December 2021 to September 2024, she served as Director of Learning, Talent & Organizational Development, spearheading leadership development programs, 360-degree feedback systems, enterprise mentoring strategies, and team-building initiatives. Before that, from December 2019 to December 2021, she served as Manager of Talent Management, Learning, and Culture, making significant contributions to FINRA's talent development and employee engagement strategies.

Cohlene's expertise spans organizational development, talent management, leadership development, change management, mentoring strategy, psychological safety, and culture transformation. She is known for designing and delivering impactful development solutions and interventions that optimize team performance, implementing enterprise mentoring programs, and facilitating leadership initiatives that foster team alignment and individual growth. Her deep understanding of leadership behaviors, executive talent planning, and team dynamics has made her a trusted advisor to C-suite executives, HR leaders, and cross-functional teams with a strong focus on driving performance and cultivating a high-performing, inclusive culture.

Before embarking on her corporate career, Cohlene built a strong academic foundation. She mostly recently completed a Wharton Executive Leadership Program at Penn State and a Leadership Coaching Certification Program with Georgetown University. Cohlene is a Doctoral Candidate in a Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) program in Human Resource Management and Leadership Development at Walden University. She also holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Banking, Corporate Finance, and Securities Law from Walden University and a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Business Administration and Management from Monroe University. Cohlene is certified in Psychological Safety Practitioner, EQ-i 2.0, DDI, HBDI, Crucial Conversations, Hogan, Change Style Indicator and Navigator, and SIT Innovation Coaching. She also holds several additional certifications in conflict management and human resource management.

Throughout her career, Cohlene has received numerous awards and accolades in recognition of her accomplishments. Last year, she was awarded Top Senior Director of the Year. This year, she



will be considered for a feature in TIP (Top Industry Professionals) Magazine. Earlier this year she was awarded The Empowered Woman Award . She will receive her most recent honor as Top Senior Director of the Decade at IAOTP's Awards Gala in NYC this December.

Looking back, Cohlene attributes her success to her perseverance, work ethic, and the mentors she has had along the way. When she is not working, she enjoys traveling and spending time with her family. In the future, she hopes to continue inspiring and influencing those entering the field.

For more information, please visit: [linkedin.com/in/cohlene-heskey-dba](https://www.linkedin.com/in/cohlene-heskey-dba)

About IAOTP

The International Association of Top Professionals (IAOTP) is an international boutique networking organization that selects the world's most distinguished and accomplished professionals across a wide range of industries. These elite professionals are provided opportunities to collaborate, share insights, serve as keynote speakers, and inspire others within their fields. Membership is not open to the general public. Candidates must be personally invited by the President or nominated by an esteemed honorary member following a brief interview.

IAOTP's experts have recognized and credentialed thousands of top-tier professionals worldwide, helping them strengthen their personal brands and expand their influence. The organization prides itself on being a one-of-a-kind boutique network that handpicks only the most exceptional individuals and brings them together on a premier platform designed to foster meaningful connections and professional growth. IAOTP remains one of the most elite and highly respected professional recognition organizations in the world.

For more information on IAOTP, please visit: www.iaotp.com

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