Silverwood and Rocky Mountain Construction host amusement industry

ATHOL and COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho — When pondering places that exhibit some of the nation’s finest amusement parks, Idaho is not a location that might quickly come to mind. That would be a misstep.

Silverwood Theme Park may not have the advantage of being surrounded by plentiful populated cities, but that hasn’t stopped the park leaders from creating a worthwhile destination in the countryside of Athol, Idaho. Opened in 1988, the park had a simple beginning.

“We are extremely excited to welcome everyone to Silverwood. My father created this family-owned park 31 years ago, and it has been a lifelong dream to showcase what he created to the industry,” said Paul Norton, general manager, leading up to the event. “I hope they will be amazed. As soon as they come up the steps and see the carousel and Victorian architecture, I think they will be blown away. I think they’ll say, ‘We’re in North Idaho and THIS is here!’ I see that reaction every day.”

“The history of the park started with the Victorian town and the early 1900s steam train my father purchased. It was like any kid playing with a train. My father just built this town around it. The park has an old feel to it. You feel immersed back in time,” said Norton.

Silverwood sits on more than 400 acres. As the small park grew by adding rides, eventually the property became a regional destination. In 2003, Silverwood Theme Park played host to industry professionals from around the globe at the 22nd annual Golden Ticket Awards. COURTESY LISA ZIGWEID

Boulder Beach Water Park was added and was included with park admission. An annual Halloween event, Scarywood, began in 2009.

Coaster fans flock to “Roller Coaster Alley.” Large roller coasters beckon motorists as they pass the park on the roadway. The park’s first installation was the historic Knott’s Berry Farm Corkscrew, which was the first modern-day roller coaster to turn riders upside down. In a move applauded by preservationists, the ride was relocated to Silverwood in 1990. It has been declared an ACE Roller Coaster Landmark by American Coaster Enthusiasts. Large wooden coasters from Custom Coasters, Inc., followed with Timber Terror and Tremors later in the 1990s. A large Vekoma steel coaster, Aftershock, was erected at the park in 2008.

Among all the rides, the 30-minute train ride remains the heart of Silverwood. In recent years, the park has reimagined the journey with new sets, stories and theming along the way, increasing the ride’s popularity like never before. Golden Ticket attendees enjoyed special reserved cars during the event.

“The train is the key element to the park, but so is the landscaping. We’re surrounded by beautiful mountains, and we spend extra time and care on the landscaping,” said Norton.

The Golden Ticket Awards weekend is often referred to as “The Networking Event of the Year.” Friday evening, Sept. 6, attendees were treated to an evening at nearby Rocky Mountain Construction (RMC). Dinner, drinks and live music took place at the birthplace of many Golden Ticket Awards winners.

“We are absolutely excited to welcome the amusement industry to Idaho,” said Fred Grubb, president of RMC. “I think people will be surprised at the beauty of the area, the friendliness of the people and how big our facilities are. We are proud of what we do here, so hosting the opening reception has been something we were looking forward to for a very long time.”

Networking continued on Saturday, Sept. 7, with a welcome reception and tour of Boulder Beach sponsored by WhiteWater West.

Tours of Scarywood, the park’s culinary department and an overview of the park’s integration software provided additional networking opportunities and operational takeaways for attendees.

Following a dinner hosted by Silverwood, the main event took place. The 22nd annual Golden Ticket Awards saw a complete refresh in 2019 (see page 2) and the event was alive and well with delighted new winners and returning recipients.

“The Coeur d’Alene Resort served as the accommodations facility for the Golden Ticket Awards. Industry professionals were able to enjoy a final night of networking following the ceremony, among the other noteworthy amenities of the resort.

Complete coverage of the Golden Ticket Awards will be featured in Amusement Today’s November I/Pre-IAAPA edition.

All stories this issue by Tim Baldwin
The refreshed Golden Ticket Awards for 2019 — What’s new?

Amusement Today is incredibly excited to present a fresh take on the Golden Ticket Awards in 2019. As a well-known entity within the amusement industry that has presented awards for more than two decades, Amusement Today has welcomed opportunities to listen to feedback, analyze potential changes and improve upon what already exists. Although the awards have served the industry well for two decades, the decision to revamp certain categories and retire others was a unanimous decision. AT aims to keep the awards current and relevant, so here are some notable differences:

• The fan base that has been loyal to Amusement Today for 22 years continues to serve the industry at large with their support, their promotion, their dedication and their hard-earned dollars. New this year, AT has invited a specific representation from suppliers, manufacturers as well as journalists who cover the industry to share their views. The perspective of those working within the business was especially valued, and certain categories were directed specifically at these professionals. In other cases, the enthusiasts were the sole voters. Some categories saw a blend of perspectives — similar to Hollywood’s Academy Awards and sports balloting including the All-Stars in baseball, wherein managers, players and writers are involved, as well as fans.

• Five categories were modified to reflect a broader spectrum of what parks have to offer. BEST SHOWS was updated to BEST NEW SHOW OF 2019 to keep the category current. In 2020, all parks are encouraged to enter a brand-new show for consideration. A specific panel formed by Amusement Today watched all nominated shows for 2019 before casting their ballots. Parties interested in being on the 2020 show panel can contact AT’s Tim Baldwin at tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com. A desire to recognize great park operations was combined with a desire to recognize great new rides and attractions to be showcased. Parties interested in being on the 2020 panel can contact AT’s Tim Baldwin at tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com. A desire to recognize great park operations was combined with

• New categories reflect insider perspective such as BEST INNOVATION OF 2019 and BEST NEW ATTRACTION INSTALLATION.

• The previous category of BEST NEW RIDE has been expanded into two new categories: BEST NEW ROLLER COASTER OF 2019 and BEST NEW FAMILY ATTRACTION OF 2019. This expansion allows for even more great new rides and attractions to be showcased.

• To acknowledge a rapidly growing segment of the industry, BREAKOUT FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT CENTER OF 2019 has also been created.

• Four categories that have served AT well in the past are being retired, and their perpetual winners are being forever honored as Golden Ticket Awards LEGENDS (see page 4).

More details are given in the coverage of these new and updated categories within this issue. Many of the core categories are, of course, retained.

Golden Ticket Awards Most-Asked Questions

Amusement Today often receives numerous questions about the industry’s most sought-after awards. Here’s the full story on the annual selection of the “Best of the Best.”

Is the voting panel the same every year?

No. AT has never had the exact same panel each year. New people are brought on as others are retired. The common thread is to find the most experienced, well-traveled park fans out there. In 2019, both industry suppliers and journalists were included in certain categories.

How many ballots are sent out?

AT reaches out to around 500 voters each year, and the response is strong. To help keep things balanced, an equal number is divided among four geographical regions of the U.S., and an international segment is also represented.

Does Amusement Today select nominees?

In the core categories, no. Any appropriate ride or park for that category can be voted on. In 2019, new categories were created in which industry professionals and parks could make specific nominations. These new categories are BEST NEW SHOW OF 2019, BEST INNOVATION OF 2019 and BEST NEW ATTRACTION INSTALLATION OF 2019. Once nominations were received from industry professionals in these categories, then designated panels cast their votes.

Can anyone vote?

Amusement Today is looking for enthusiastic park fans who visit several parks a year and have had several years of experience. We are always seeking new candidates for our panel. If you feel your experience is high and are actively visiting numerous parks and attractions each year, contact Tim Baldwin at tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com to inquire if you are a good fit for next year’s panel. For our industry panelists, Amusement Today is looking for a single representative from manufacturers and suppliers, as well as those involved with writing about the amusement industry.

Winning parks showcase their Golden Ticket Award wins. Cedar Point’s Steel Vengeance (left), Carowinds’s Fury 325 (middle lift) Silver Dollar City’s Outlaw Run (middle right) and Knoebels’s Phoenix (far right) all display their victories at their ride entrances. AT/TIM BALDWIN; JOHN W.C. ROBINSON
Thank You to our 2019 Golden Ticket Awards Sponsors...
People become legends because of their major accomplishments or their long-running status of noteworthy effort. Over the past two decades, Amusement Today has brought attention to The Best of the Best, acknowledging parks, manufacturers and the rides that have risen to the top. In time, the repetitive nature has indicated that, while the categories have served the industry well, there is a time to bring a close to specific categories that have served their purpose.

And so, Amusement Today is reintroducing the Golden Ticket Awards LEGENDS, and expanding the award to include not only individuals (as it had previously), but also to include facilities and attractions.

As Amusement Today retires these categories, it seemed appropriate to acknowledge them for their achievements, which have been, well, legendary. Legend recipients have special Golden Tickets created to illustrate this renowned status and will have their achievement on display at future Golden Ticket Awards events.

Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk
BEST SEASIDE PARK
was introduced in 2007 and Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk claimed the Golden Ticket 11out of 12years. Delighting beach goers and vacationers since 1907, the Boardwalk is anchored by the classic 1924 Giant Dipper and its Looff Carousel dating to 1911.

“Winning the Golden Ticket for BEST SEASIDE PARK over so many years and now retiring as a LEGEND is a huge honor,” said Tom Canfield, Vice President, Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk. “The Golden Tickets have helped showcase our park’s importance in the industry and made our employees and guests proud. It was a very fun ride!”

GOLDEN TICKET AWARDS LEGEND:
The Grand Carousel, Knoebels Amusement Resort COURTESY KNOEBELS AMUSEMENT RESORT

The Grand Carousel, Knoebels Amusement Resort
BEST CAROUSEL
started out as a rotating category as the new millennium began before becoming an annual designation in 2007. Over that window of time, the undefeated champ is the Grand Carousel at Knoebels Amusement Resort. The Golden Ticket was awarded a total of 14times in this category.

“The Grand Carousel will always be the ‘Heart and Soul’ of Knoebels,” said Leanna Knoebel Muscato. Located near the very center, as the park has grown up around her, she holds many memories for our guests. When a family comes to visit, they all can ride together. Some will choose to reach for the rings, and others are happy riding a jumper horse, while grandparents may choose a relaxing chariot ride, all to the tunes of the antique band organs. It is not unusual to hear a parent or a grandparent pointing out their own favorite horse to their children or grandchildren.”

GOLDEN TICKET AWARDS LEGEND:
Noah’s Ark, Kennywood AT/TIM BALDWIN

Noah’s Ark, Kennywood
BEST FUNHOUSE – WALKTHROUGH ATTRACTION
was introduced in 2008, the BEST FUNHOUSE – WALKTHROUGH ATTRACTION award has shone a spotlight on those attractions that people don’t ride, but experience from strolling through the sights and entertainment within.

Kennywood’s Noah’s Ark has taken the award every year since 2010. During that time, the park has continued to invest in the 1936 Philadelphia Toboggan Company attraction. The kitschy funhouse has become a beloved part of each visit to the historic park.

“Even within our many rare and historic rides, Noah’s Ark stands out as a unique experience,” says Kennywood General Manager Jerome Costales. “We’re thankful for the support of the Golden Ticket Award voters to make Noah’s Ark a nine-time champion as the BEST FUNHOUSE/WALK-THROUGH ATTRACTION, and grateful to the team at Amusement Today for designating the Ark a LEGEND. Noah’s Ark certainly is a living legend with Kennywood, and to our guests who happily climb aboard as frequently now as when the Ark first set sail in 1936.”
WE’RE HONORED TO BE A

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Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk
Best Seaside Park
Presented 11 times from 2007 to 2018

Thank You FROM ALL OF US AT

Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk

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Morey's Piers: Park of the Year

It's not easy to make a mark on the industry ... or a city. The Morey family was able to do just that. And it started with a giant slide.

With success in the hotel business, brothers Will and Bill Morey noticed something on a trip to Florida that would change their lives forever. A big slide was set up in a shopping center parking lot, and the two gentlemen surmised it could be a hit in their hometown of Wildwood, New Jersey. It was. As the brothers acquired some land, a pier grew around the slide and more rides and attractions came following that successful start in 1969.

Before long, one pier became two. A third pier was added, and Morey's Piers soon became synonymous with a trip to Jersey shore. In time, the property would change their lives forever. A big slide was set up in a shopping center. The new cars now travel along beautiful landscaping, water features and clever signage. Savvy long timers will note the nods to attractions from the past in the architecture and billboards as they travel along the roadway. Guests queued up in big numbers for their opportunity to take a relaxing drive. Knowing its audience embraces the park history, Kings Island was on a roll. The glockenspiel at the Festhaus was restored. Parents and grandparents that remember it as children, can now share it with their own.

The Beast, turned 40 this year and was retired in 2004, Kings Island offered up a marvelous return. Supplied by Gould Manufacturing, the new cars now travel along beautiful landscaping, water features and clever signage. Savvy long timers will note the nods to attractions past in the architecture and billboards as they travel along the roadway. Guests queued up in big numbers for their opportunity to take a relaxing drive. Knowing its audience embraces the park history, Kings Island was on a roll. The glockenspiel at the Festhaus was restored. Parents and grandparents that remember it as children, can now share it with their own.

As competitors slowly faded away, Morey's Piers didn’t rest on its laurels. It just became better. Water parks became incorporated into the offerings on the piers. As the need for new attractions prevailed, those at the top found brilliant ways to make use of limited space.

Now under the direction of Will Morey's sons, Jack and Will Jr., the piers have a winning formula: Know your audience, know your brand and keep a commitment to family values.

Although beach communities can easily fall into a “party crowd” atmosphere, the Morey's Piers brand has always put families at the forefront. Cleanliness is an automatic rule, and the seaside pier’s rival major theme parks in their quest to remain spotless. While certain seaside comfort foods are expected to be staples on the beachfront, Morey's Piers pushes itself creatively with outstanding dishes designed and prepared by executive chefs.

Here, more so than any other North American seaside property, Morey's Piers has been a leader at bringing big rides, originally from Europe, to vacationing families enjoying the surf. The variety of rides and the property’s unique take on how they are installed continues to fuel the charm and energy found at the facility. A new family coaster from Zierer just installed is indicative of that.

Celebrating 50 years of innovation and creative success this season, Amusement Today honors Morey’s Piers with the Publisher's Pick for PARK OF THE YEAR.

Kings Island connects guest memories and park history

Listening. It's amazing what occurs when that happens.

As theme parks add decades of history under their belts, their audiences have become multi-generational. Many older Kings Island fans can recall watching those episodes of The Partridge Family and The Brady Bunch that took each family to the Cincinnati park. Just as those memories of aired television shows resonated with loyal park goers, so do the details and experiences that happened years ago. This season, Kings Island listened.

At the announcement last year as well as the debut of Kings Mills Antique Autos this spring, park management was quick to convey that the auto ride was the most requested ride to bring back. The original was retired in 2004, but families were vocal. They longed for an auto ride again. Park officials not only listened, they reacted.

Kings Island offered up a marvelous return. Supplied by Gould Manufacturing, the new cars now travel along beautiful landscaping, water features and clever signage. Savvy long timers will note the nods to attractions past in the architecture and billboards as they travel along the roadway. Guests queued up in big numbers for their opportunity to take a relaxing drive. Knowing its audience embraces the park history, Kings Island was on a roll. The glockenspiel at the Festhaus was restored. Parents and grandparents that remember it as children, can now share it with their own.

The park's legendary wooden coaster, The Beast, turned 40 this year and was retired in 2004, Kings Island offered up a marvelous return. Supplied by Gould Manufacturing, the new cars now travel along beautiful landscaping, water features and clever signage. Savvy long timers will note the nods to attractions past in the architecture and billboards as they travel along the roadway. Guests queued up in big numbers for their opportunity to take a relaxing drive. Knowing its audience embraces the park history, Kings Island was on a roll. The glockenspiel at the Festhaus was restored. Parents and grandparents that remember it as children, can now share it with their own.

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Kings Island is the 2019 recipient of the Publishers Pick RENAISSANCE AWARD.
Kings Island®
RENAISSANCE AWARD
for the addition of Antique Cars
Silverwood delights its visitors with creativity and imagination

When Gary Norton opened Silverwood in 1988, there were no rides — except for one.

For more than a quarter of a century, the train ride was a staple of each guest’s visit. A leisurely ride through the natural setting of the Idaho landscape was a pleasant experience. However, for decades the ride was relatively unchanged. The best joke on the train was: “If you look to the left, you’ll see some trees. If you look on the right … more trees.”

Enter Marshal Jack. Or to be precise, Chris Tortora, who had experience with Walt Disney World and Universal Studios Entertainment. After learning about Tortora’s decade of experience, Gary and Paul Norton reached out for some help.

With a revision of the script, a choreographed stunt show and several themed sets, the train ride took on new life. The story of Marshal Jack and his deputies takes guests on an adventure into Silverwood’s Mythical Frontier. The journey for a group of missing expedition members involves a search for Bigfoot. In time, each set had static or animatronic Bigfoot characters installed and entertainment was soon placed all along the route.

Even Tortora had his own entertaining surprise. On a whim, he placed a fairy door on the trunk of a single tree. Even though guests loved the sets, the stunt show and Bigfoot well enough, according to Tortora, “They went bananas over that fairy door!” The following year, an entire Fairy Woods set was added. Stone walls, ogres, tree-stump goblins and spitting trolls — yes, they spit on people on the train! — joined the fairies. Guests loved it. Tortora’s next idea was an imaginative take on retail. He thought it would be fun if actors “caught” fairies in butterfly nets. Guests didn’t buy them, they adopted them for five dollars. Park management wasn’t completely sold it would work, but they were willing to place a small order of fairies. Not only did they sell like hotcakes, they sold out completely — quickly!

As the train ride gained in popularity, so did sales. For 25 years, Silverwood didn’t sell anything on the train. Tortora’s idea of adding a saloon girl and her Sherpa on the train walking up and down the train was a stroke of brilliance. Sales of food, water, theme-related snacks and merchandise passed the $100,000 mark in just three months.

Business people often equate money with success. In the case of Silverwood, success also finds a home in charity. In its history, the train would be besieged with robbers, with all “theft” going to local charities. With the renewed popularity of the train ride, the donations jumped from around $8,000 to more than $50,000 in the first year alone.

The spark of imagination and the magic of storytelling can bring people through the gates and provide memories they will carry with them for years to come. Silverwood just wanted to give guests a thrilling adventure, but it turned into a huge success for everyone. Amusement Today is inspired and honored to award the Publisher’s Pick TURNSTILE AWARD to Silverwood Theme Park.
Morey’s Piers would like to thank Amusement Today for honoring us with Park of the Year and we congratulate this year’s Golden Ticket Winners.

Cheers to Fifty Years!

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PUBLISHER'S PICK
MISSION AWARD
TURNSTILE AWARD
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# 2019 Golden Ticket Award Winners

## Best Park

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Park Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Europa-Park</td>
<td>Rust, Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Dollywood</td>
<td>Pigeon Forge, Tenn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cedar Point</td>
<td>Sandusky, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Disneyland</td>
<td>Anaheim, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Busch Gardens Williamsburg</td>
<td>Williamsburg, Va.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## Best Water Park of 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Park Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Schlitterbahn</td>
<td>New Braunfels, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Volcano Bay</td>
<td>Orlando, Fla.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Splashin’ Safari</td>
<td>Santa Claus, Ind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Typhoon Lagoon</td>
<td>Orlando, Fla.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Blizzard Beach</td>
<td>Orlando, Fla.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## Best Family Park of 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Park Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Dutch Wonderland</td>
<td>Lancaster, Pa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sesame Place</td>
<td>Langhorne, Pa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Idlewild &amp; Soakzone</td>
<td>Ligonier, Pa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Paulson’s Park</td>
<td>Hampshire, England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Legoland Florida</td>
<td>Winter Haven, Fl.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## Best Water Life/Wildlife Park of 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Park Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>SeaWorld Orlando</td>
<td>Orlando, Fla.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Disney’s Animal Kingdom</td>
<td>Orlando, Fla.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Discovery Cove</td>
<td>Orlando, Fla.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Busch Gardens Tampa Bay</td>
<td>Tampa, Fla.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ocean Park</td>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Breakout Family Entertainment Center of 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Arcade Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>C.J. Barrymore’s</td>
<td>Clinton Township, Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Funland of Fredericksburg</td>
<td>Fredericksburg, Va.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Two Bit Circus</td>
<td>Los Angeles, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Clifton Hill</td>
<td>Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Frankie’s Fun Park</td>
<td>Charlotte, N.C.</td>
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## Most Beautiful Park of 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Park Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Busch Gardens Williamsburg</td>
<td>Williamsburg, Va.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Europa-Park</td>
<td>Rust, Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Dollywood</td>
<td>Pigeon Forge, Tenn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gilroy Gardens</td>
<td>Gilroy, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Silver Dollar City</td>
<td>Branson, Mo.</td>
</tr>
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## Best Water Ride of 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Ride Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Valhalla</td>
<td>Blackpool Pleasure Beach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Timber Mountain Log Ride</td>
<td>Knott’s Berry Farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Dudley Do-Right’s Ripsaw Falls</td>
<td>Universal’s Islands of Adventure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Infinity Falls</td>
<td>SeaWorld Orlando</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Jurrasic Park River Adventure</td>
<td>Universal’s Islands of Adventure</td>
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## Best Kids’ Area of 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Area Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Dollywood</td>
<td>Pigeon Forge, Tenn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kings Island</td>
<td>Mason, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Canada’s Wonderland</td>
<td>Vaughan, Ontario, Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Efteling</td>
<td>Kaatsheuvel, The Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Universal’s Islands of Adventure</td>
<td>Orlando, Fla.</td>
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## Best Halloween Event of 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Universal Studios Orlando</td>
<td>Orlando, Fla.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Knott’s Berry Farm</td>
<td>Buena Park, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Knoebels Amusement Resort</td>
<td>Elysburg, Pa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Europa-Park</td>
<td>Rust, Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Kennywood</td>
<td>West Mifflin, Pa.</td>
</tr>
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## Best New Show of 2019

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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Reuben’s Swashbuckling Adventure</td>
<td>Silver Dollar City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Paddington On Ice — The Grand Voyage</td>
<td>Europa-Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Detention at Rockville</td>
<td>Six Flags Fiesta Texas</td>
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## Best New Rollercoaster of 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Rollercoaster Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The Steel Curtain</td>
<td>Kennywood</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hagrid’s Magical … Motorbike Adventure</td>
<td>Universal’s Islands of Adventure</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Copperhead Strike</td>
<td>Carowinds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Yukon Striker</td>
<td>Canada’s Wonderland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Untamed</td>
<td>Walibi Holland</td>
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## Best New Family Attraction of 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Attraction Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Millennium Falcon: Smugglers Run</td>
<td>Disneyland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kaleidoscape</td>
<td>Efteling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kings Mills Antique Autos</td>
<td>SeaWorld San Diego</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Tidal Twister</td>
<td>SeaWorld San Diego</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Masters of Flight</td>
<td>Legoland Florida</td>
</tr>
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## Best New Water Park Ride of 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Ride Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cutback Water Coaster</td>
<td>Water Country USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lava Drifting</td>
<td>Shanghai Haichang Ocean Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Daredevil’s Peak</td>
<td>Perfect Day at CocoCay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Infinity Racers</td>
<td>Schlitterbahn Galveston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Rapid Remix</td>
<td>Soundwaves Water Park</td>
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## Best New Attraction Installation of 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Installation Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Hagrid’s Magical … Motorbike Adventure</td>
<td>Universal’s Islands of Adventure</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Copperhead Strike</td>
<td>Carowinds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sesame Street: Street Mission</td>
<td>PortAventura World</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>The Zenith</td>
<td>Mega Par</td>
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</table>

## Best Guest Experience of 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Experience Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pirates of the Caribbean: … Sunken Treasure</td>
<td>Shanghai Disneyland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Harry Potter and the Forbidden Journey</td>
<td>Universal’s Islands of Adventure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Twilight Zone: Tower of Terror</td>
<td>Disney’s Hollywood Studios</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Indiana Jones … Temple of the Forbidden Eye</td>
<td>Disneyland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Haunted Mansion</td>
<td>Knoebels Amusement Resort</td>
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</table>

## Best Dark Ride of 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Ride Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Walibi Holland</td>
<td>Pigeon Forge, Tenn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Holiday World</td>
<td>Santa Claus, Ind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Silver Dollar City</td>
<td>Rust, Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Europa-Park</td>
<td>Anaheim, Calif.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

## Best Water Park Ride of 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Ride Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Valhalla</td>
<td>Splaschin’ Safari</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Krakatau Aqua Coaster</td>
<td>Volcano Bay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mammoth</td>
<td>Splashin’ Safari</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ray Rush</td>
<td>SeaWorld Orlando</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>The Falls</td>
<td>Schlitterbahn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Best Food of 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Food Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Knoebels Amusement Resort</td>
<td>Elysburg, Pa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Dollywood</td>
<td>Pigeon Forge, Tenn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Epcot</td>
<td>Orlando, Fla.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Silver Dollar City</td>
<td>Branson, Mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Europa-Park</td>
<td>Rust, Germany</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## Best Christmas Event of 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Dollywood</td>
<td>Pigeon Forge, Tenn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Silver Dollar City</td>
<td>Branson, Mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Hersheypark</td>
<td>Hershey, Pa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>SeaWorld Orlando</td>
<td>Orlando, Fla.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Kings Island</td>
<td>Mason, Ohio</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Best New Rides of 2019 display fresh ideas and classic fun

With the changes in place for the BEST NEW RIDE categories, Amusement Today has spread the love with an expansion of noteworthy observations. This year, voters selected BEST NEW ROLLER COASTER, BEST NEW FAMILY ATTRACTION and BEST NEW RIDE in a WATER PARK. Industry professionals were able to vote on BEST NEW ATTRACTION INSTALLATION based on nominations offered from within the industry.

Best New Roller Coaster
Pinpointing the best new coaster is always a fan favorite. Kennywood takes the prize this year with The Steel Curtain. The towering 220-foot coaster set a North American record for inversions — nine — but it wasn’t the quantity that won over fans. The inversions on this artistic creation were highly regarded for their artistry and fluidity. Combine this with the sports mania of the Pittsburgh Steelers and Kennywood took the Golden Ticket for BEST NEW ROLLER COASTER.

Best New Family Attraction
One of Amusement Today’s new categories, BEST NEW FAMILY ATTRACTION, allows other rides besides roller coasters to be noted for their thrills. Taking the Golden Ticket is Disneyland’s Millennium Falcon: Smugglers Run. Its exquisitely detailed theming and choice of roles for riders thoroughly immersed guests (and voters) in a dynamic, interstellar Star Wars adventure.

Family-level thrills were also crowd pleasers with the reimagined attractions in the Nos. 2 and 3 spots. Elitch Gardens worked with the artist community Meow Wolf to transform a previous dark ride into a mindbending, interactive multi-sensory experience called Kaleidoscape. Kings Island listened to guests and reintroduced a new version of the park’s beloved Kings Mills Antique Autos. The installation included thematic touches and beautiful landscaping, as well as new cars from Gould Manufacturing.

Skyline Attractions’ first Sky Warp Horizon model opened as Tidal Twister (No. 4) at SeaWorld San Diego. Masters of Flight, a flying theater from Brogent, at Legoland Florida rounds out the top five.

Best New Water Park Ride
For BEST NEW WATER PARK RIDE, Water Country USA takes the Golden Ticket for the exhilarating Cutback Water Coaster. Supplied by ProSlide Technology, the hydromagnetic water coaster has launched uphill sections and highly banked flying saucer turns.

“I guess you can say we’re making roller coasters even cooler — we added water,” said Jeff Thomas, interim president for Busch Gardens and Water Country USA. “This year, Water Country USA joined the exciting world of roller coasters with the addition of Cutback Water Coaster. We are thrilled our decisions have been recognized with this amazing ride.”

The No. 2 spot is occupied by an incredibly long spinning rapids ride, Lava Drifting at Shanghai Haiching Ocean Park. The 11-minute ride features elevated channels and actual rapids. The themed attraction was supplied by WhiteWater West.

WhiteWater West also delivered a trio of finalists. Daredevil’s Peak at Perfect Day at CocoCay (No. 3) is a stunning waterslide attraction that features North America’s tallest waterslide (135 feet) on a private island owned by Royal Caribbean, making for an exclusive ride to add to one’s list. Schitterbahn Galveston also snagged a record for longest head-first mat slide with Infinity Racers (No. 4). Rapids

Best New Attraction Installation
Seeking the perspective of those in the business, an amusement-industry-exclusive category of BEST NEW ATTRACTION INSTALLATION OF 2019 garnered the acclaim from insiders. Nominees were submitted from parks and suppliers in the industry, as well as journalists. Hagrid’s Magical Creatures Motorbike Adventure was crowned the champ in this category that took into consideration the ride, theming, capacity and innovation. With a compelling storyline and immersive environment, Universal’s Islands of Adventure and Intamin created a must-do for Harry Potter fans and coaster fans alike.

The Steel Curtain (No. 2) at Kennywood and Copperhead Strike (No. 3) at Carowinds were also noted for their innovation.

Sesame Street: Street Mission at PortAventura World in Spain came in fourth. The thematic dark ride was a project of Sally.

The Zenith (No. 5) at Mega Parc in Canada featured cantilevered seats on a hubless Ferris wheel which allowed for a single rider coaster to travel through its center. Some of the carriages on the wheel featured clear floors adding to the innovative view. The wheel was manufactured by Larson International. The Telegraph coaster traveling through its center is by Extreme Engineering.
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BEST NEW ROLLER COASTER
OF 2019

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Kennywood on your Golden Ticket Award for the best new Roller Coaster for 2019
Congratulations to Kennywood!!! Thank You for letting Baynum Painting’s team put the finishing touches on your amazing new S&S steel coaster!

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#1 Golden Ticket Award Winners

GOLDEN TICKET LEGEND - PRESENTED 11 TIMES FROM 2008 TO 2018

BEST INDOOR COASTER
Universal Studios Florida – Revenge of the Mummy

BEST NEW INSTALLATION OF 2019
Universal’s Islands of Adventure – Hagrid’s Magical Creatures Motorbike Adventure™

BEST HALLOWEEN EVENT
Universal Studios Florida – Halloween Horror Nights

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Everyone enjoys a view from above, especially from the top of a Chance Rides Wheel. Our wheel sizes start at 63-feet and go all the way up to the observation wheels at 250-feet tall!

TRAINS
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CAROUSELS
Artistically crafted for an authentic, distinctive look, each Chance Rides Carousel is a masterpiece.

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1st Place BEST WATER PARK RIDE 2019 Golden Ticket Awards!

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WATER COASTER

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WATER PARK RIDE
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Holiday World & Splashin’ Safari

Wildebeest

#1 Best Water Ride 10th Year in a Row!

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In modifying the Golden Ticket for BEST CHILDREN’S PARK to BEST FAMILY PARK, Amusement Today looked at factors that weren’t necessarily aimed at only small children. Those attributes still qualify, but a broader perspective was brought into play. This wider range of parks focuses on rides where adults and kids ride together, thrills are kept in the mid-range, a wide variety of attractions for all family members are offered, and rides don’t go upside down for the most part.

The first Golden Ticket winner in this newly modified category is Dutch Wonderland in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

“Our whole team is incredibly excited to receive the Golden Ticket Award for Best Family Park!” said Laura Charles, general manager. “We work hard to create an environment the entire family will love and are humbled by this honor. It reflects the guest-focused commitment of every single team member, because it is especially through our service that we help create magical memories. As we look to the future, we’ll continue growing the park in ways that encourage these shared experiences and memories.”

Opened in 1963, the park has compiled a wide range of attractions meant to be enjoyed together. The recent addition of Merlin’s Mayhem, an S&S family suspended coaster, has continued to elevate the ride product. Charles also praises the park’s ever-popular shows that resonate with all ages of guests.

Sesame Place, also in Pennsylvania, and part of the SeaWorld family, places No. 2. Oscar’s Wacky Taxi, a Gravity Group family wood coaster brought new acclaim to the park in 2018.

Former BEST CHILDREN’S PARK winner Idlewild & SoakZone enters this chart in the No. 3 position. Interestingly, the top three choices are all located in Pennsylvania.

Paulton’s Park in England and Legoland Florida complete the list in the Nos. 4 and 5 spots, respectively.

Other park categories find familiar winners locked in place. BEST PARK goes to Europa-Park for a sixth year. As only the second park ever to take the category, the German theme park has recently not only recovered from a devastating fire in 2018, but has emerged stronger and awaits its second gate, Rulantica, this fall. The park is a finalist in six categories overall.

Rising to the No. 2 spot is Dollywood. With a $37 million investment into its new Wildwood Grove section, the Tennessee theme park continues to widen and enhance its offerings to guests.

Cedar Point, often considered the Coaster Capital of the World, is at the No. 3 spot. Disneyland, which turns 65 next season, enters the top five at the No. 4 position. Busch Gardens Williamsburg completes the list.

An undefeated champion, Schlitterbahn continues to slide into the Golden Ticket for 22 years running. The park’s fame as BEST WATER PARK is not taken lightly, as management continues to
THANK YOU!

DUTCH WONDERLAND IS HONORED TO BE VOTED BEST FAMILY PARK!
Historic Times at Europa Park!

We are thankful to the readers of Amusement Today for your confidence in us as "Best Theme Park" 6 times in a row!
europapark.com

Now open: "KRONASAR - the Museum-Hotel" - our 6th themed hotel.

Scandinavia - Newly Reimagined. More beautiful than ever!

Fall 2019: Snorri Touren - the new themed ride.

Summer 2020: "Pirates of Batavia" - the legend comes back.

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THEME PARK & RESORT
FOR BEST PARK

GOLDEN TICKET AWARD

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MACK RIDES
innovate and offers more custom and signature attractions than any other water park. Climbing to No. 2, Volcano Bay continues to welcome first-time visitors to the elaborately themed water park for the Universal Orlando resort.

Splashin’ Safari (No. 3) remains a crowd pleaser nestled adjacent to Holiday World in Indiana. With a recent announcement of a major new attraction, the competition is on for 2020 to see if the park can jump up a notch (or two) for 2020.

Two Walt Disney World properties claim the Nos. 4 and 5 positions, Typhoon Lagoon and Blizzard Beach, respectively.

The modification of BEST MARINE LIFE PARK to expand to BEST MARINE LIFE/WILDLIFE PARK didn’t deter voters from their respect for SeaWorld Orlando. Taking the Golden Ticket for the newly named category, the park opened a new Sesame Street area in the park, just mere months after the opening of 2018’s Infinity Falls. The restructuring of the category did bring in some new faces. Disney’s Animal Kingdom places No. 2. The park features animal safaris, encounters and educational components, as well as rides and shows centered around the animal world.

There are no closer animal encounters than at Discovery Cove (No. 3). The popularity of swimming with dolphins continues to enthrall guests as much as it did when the park opened in 2000. A sister park, Busch Gardens Tampa Bay (No. 4) takes guests out of the water and lets them observe wonderful animal habitats on land all within a world-class theme park.

Ocean Park in Hong Kong completes the five finalists.
According to IAAPA, the family entertainment sector is the organization’s largest sector. As this faction of the industry continues to grow, it seemed fitting to reflect this with a Golden Ticket Award. To honor those facilities who are making great strides, Amusement Today has created BREAKOUT FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT CENTER OF 2019.

In its inaugural year, the Golden Ticket goes to C.J. Barrymore’s in Michigan. This year, the facility added four new rides in a single season. An extensive marketing push via billboards, press and other media showcased the FEC as a destination within the Detroit area.

“Since we added the four new rides, it has really transformed our whole operations,” said Rick Iceberg, owner. “It has transformed us into more of an FEC park. We’re not an amusement park, but we’ve gone beyond an FEC; we’re somewhere in between that we were trying to figure out. We really like where we’re at and where we’re going. The feeling is really dynamic when you walk through the park now.”

A Soaring Eagle combo tower, 110-foot Lamberink wheel, and an SBF/Visa spinning coaster from Rides 4 U have caused a big uptick in business. The Soaring Eagle tower generates the most excitement with the high level of screams, but Iceberg says the biggest ridership has been on the spinning coaster, which he terms the throughput as “amazing.”

“We’re trying not to look at the numbers because we had so much rain last year, we don’t want to jinx it,” said Iceberg who estimates the facility is up 20 percent. “Talk about being superstitious.”

In the No. 2 spot is Virginia’s Funland of Fredericksburg. After adding an indoor spinning coaster in 2018, the FEC roared onto the scene with a brand-new multi-level go-kart track this season. Thunder Speedway twists and turns spiraling 30 feet above ground with a track length of 1,700 linear feet.

Two Bit Circus (No. 3) in Los Angeles opened a flagship location that puts an avant-garde technological spin on classic arcade and midway games while adding a VR arena to the mix. A bar with a robot bartender elevates the property to a new level of cool, as do adults-only evenings on Fridays and Saturdays after 9:00 p.m. An eclectic menu offers “Carny fare. Reimagined,” and story rooms provide a unique twist on escape rooms. The FEC even has private gaming cabanas.

Clifton Hill (No. 4) in Niagara Falls, Canada, offers lots of attractions ranging from bowling, a giant Ferris Wheel, a dark ride and everything from making fudge to wax hands. This year, the facility expanded with a multi-level Speedway go-kart track. The addition attracted the attention of social media for nearly a year before it opened.

Frankie’s Fun Park (No. 5) is a brand new FEC in Charlotte N.C. The 21-acre property features three pirate-themed miniature golf course, indoor and outdoor rides, an XD-dark ride from Triotech and a Hologate four-player VR experience. Glowing bumper cars and bowling alleys add to the cool factor in addition to the flash of the arcade.
The ‘Breakout’ hit of the summer!

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**Best Steel Coaster**
#1 Fury 325® – Carowinds®
#2 Millennium Force® – Cedar Point®
#3 Steel Vengeance® – Cedar Point
#9 Leviathan®
Canada’s Wonderland®
#11 Intimidator® 305
Kings Dominion®
#13 Maverick® – Cedar Point
#14 Diamondback – Kings Island®
#18 Magnum XL-200 – Cedar Point
#21 Top Thrill Dragster® – Cedar Point

**Best Waterpark**
#1 Schlitterbahn®
#5 The Beach® – Kings Island
#6 GhostRider®
Knott’s Berry Farm®
#10 Mystic Timbers® – Kings Island
#12 Gold Striker®
California’s Great America
#15 Shivering Timbers®
Michigan’s Adventure®
#24 Renegade® – Valleyfair®

**Best Water Ride**
#2 Timber Mountain Log Ride
Knott’s Berry Farm

**Best Wooden Coaster**
#16 The Beast® – Kings Island
#21 Top Thrill Dragster® – Cedar Point

**Best Kids’ Area**
#2 Kings Island
#3 Canada’s Wonderland

**Best Park**
#3 Cedar Point

**Best New Roller Coaster**
#3 Copperhead Strike™
Carowinds

**Best New Attraction Installation**
#3 Copperhead Strike
Carowinds

**Best New Family Attraction**
#3 Kings Mills Antique Autos
Kings Island

**Most Beautiful Park**
#4 Gilroy Gardens

**Renaissance Award**
Kings Mills Antique Autos
Kings Island

**Innovation of the Year**
Yukon Striker – Loose Article
Storage System
Canada’s Wonderland

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WORLD’S BEST
22 YEARS IN A ROW!
Congratulations, Schlitterbahn®
In a review of the former BEST SHOWS category, Amusement Today endeavored to bring a fresh approach and modified the category to BEST NEW SHOW OF 2019. All parks were encouraged to submit performances that met a simple requirement: The show had to be new for this year. It could not be a previous show with simply a new cast or new parts.

To make the category a success, Amusement Today formed a select panel of show fans that made a commitment to watch all nominees and then send in their selections. Three clear favorites rose to the top.

**Best New Show of 2019**

"Reuben's Swashbuckling Adventure" found favor with the panel for its talented performers, show sets and mix of great music and humor. Silver Dollar City produced this show in their large Opera House. The 35-minute show starred 14 singers and elaborate costumes.

"We set out to create a summer show that would attract and entertain families with kids as well as adult couples. That objective is so easy to state, yet difficult to implement inside of a show," said Brad Thomas, park president.

"We always strive to ensure our signature production shows entertain but also provide a deeper meaning and a deeper connection. Reuben's Swashbuckling Adventure's interesting twists deliver those meanings and connections. High took student storylines through a string of classic songs from the 1980s. The show placed at No. 3."

In both BEST HALLOWEEN EVENT OF 2018 and BEST CHRISTMAS EVENT OF 2018, the top two spots remain unchanged, but new players entered the pack of finalists.

**Best Halloween Event of 2018**

Universal Studios Orlando snagged the Golden Ticket with its Halloween Horror Nights, an award it has now held for 12 years. Likewise, Knott's Berry Farm maintains its No. 2 position as a strong finisher.

**Best Christmas Event of 2018**

It would appear Dollywood has a lock on the holidays. The Pigeon Forge park has been undefeated in the category; this year making a 12-year run. Sister park Silver Dollar City has also been acknowledged for its outstanding Christmas festival and the park continues to up its game each year. In 2018, the park set a new attendance record for its "Old Time Christmas."

The Nos. 3 – 5 spots see a couple new faces. Hersheypark (No. 3) makes a return to the finalists and SeaWorld Orlando (No. 4) finds itself in the category finalists for the first time. Kings Island's Winterfest continues to bring out fans and completes the list of top contenders.

More parks continue to add Christmas events each year, discovering a new marketable way to extend the season.
Thanks for choosing our swashbuckling show!
Dollywood takes Best Experience; Busch and Knoebels repeat wins

With the 2019 refresh of the Golden Ticket Awards, Amusement Today merged some previous categories and combined them with additional criteria. What were FRIENDLIEST PARK and CLEANEST PARK have now been joined together, along with strong operations to create BEST GUEST EXPERIENCE.

Best Guest Experience
The very first recipient of this new Golden Ticket is Dollywood. As a long-time finalist in the previous categories, as well as boasting good capacity with its operations, the theme park offers a world-class experience for guests visiting from across the country and around the world.

"We don’t do what we do to win awards,” said legendary icon Dolly Parton. "They are nice, but we do it because we want to provide families an escape to a beautiful place where they can forget about all the things going on in their daily lives and truly enjoy each other. I’m so proud of what we’ve been able to accomplish here since we opened Dollywood in 1986. The Smokies are where my heart sings. I wanted to give folks the world over a reason to come here and see it for themselves. We’ve kept adding new things — new shows, new rides — so they’ll have something new to enjoy each time they come visit us.

"Winning the Golden Ticket for Best Guest Experience further solidifies what we’ve known for so long. The unparalleled Dollywood experience provides guests a genuinely friendly, clean and warm environment to create memories they will be able to share forever. From our welcoming hosts and picturesque natural surroundings to our unique attractions, entertainment and food, Dollywood offers an experience impossible to duplicate anywhere else,” said Pete Owens, vice-president of marketing and public relations.

Best Food
Park fans have voted with their stomach once again. Knoebels Amusement Resort turns up the heat on the competition and keeps the Golden Ticket for BEST FOOD. Three parks have claimed this award in the past 22 years. Knoebels has snagged it for 16 of them.

Three of the five finalists have charted in all the categories listed on this page, speaking to the caliber of what they offer guests. Dollywood (No. 2), Silver Dollar City (No. 4) and Europa-Park (No. 5) boast their quality in yet another category with a vast variety of delicious food options. Epcot (No. 3) with its vast international cuisine completes our list of finalists.

Most Beautiful Park
A modification of BEST LANDSCAPING to MOST BEAUTIFUL PARK did not throw Busch Gardens Williamsburg a curve ball. The perennial Golden Ticket winner still held this category. With the modification of the category to also include architecture and theming, all these attributes are found at the Virginia park known for its beauty.

Europa-Park (No. 2) echoes those qualities with its themed architecture and elaborate landscaping. The German theme park built in 1975 illustrates the styling and beauty of numerous European countries.

Dollywood (No. 3), set in the hills of the Smoky Mountains, has numerous examples of fanciful architecture and lush displays of beautiful landscaping.

Gilroy Gardens (No. 4) in California is world famous for the amazing Circus Trees as well as sculpted plantings and stunning flower arrangements.

Silver Dollar City (No. 5), like Dollywood, has the hills of the Ozarks as a canvas to create a beautiful atmosphere with colorful flora and stylized themed buildings.

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Dollywood and Shanghai Disneyland are new winners in ride categories

Since BEST WATER RIDE was introduced in 2001, only two water attractions have taken the top spot.

**Best Water Ride**

Valhalla at Blackpool Pleasure Beach has splashed into first five years in a row, and seven overall. The indoor flume from Intamin plunges riders into fire and fog and larger-than-life scenes sporting a Viking motif. It’s a guarantee to get positively wet.

Jumping onto the charts at No. 2 is Timber Mountain Log Ride at Knott's Berry Farm. Considered to be one of the world’s best flumes, renovations and TLC keep this historic Arrow ride in top condition. Its length and elaborate theming make it a family favorite.

Dudley Do-Right's Ripsaw Falls at Universal's Islands of Adventure (No. 3), once a Golden Ticket holder, was supplied by Mack Rides and interweaves comical scenes of classic cartoons into a theatrical and exciting final plunge.

New just last year, Infinity Falls (No. 4) at SeaWorld Orlando makes its first presence on the charts. The dramatic 40-foot plunge from an iconic tower makes for a photogenic finale.

At No. 5 is Islands of Adventure’s Jurassic Park River Adventure, finding its way back onto the charts.

**Best Water Park Ride**

Holiday World & Splashin’ Safari has two BEST WATER PARK RIDES on AT’s list. Making for a decade of domination, Wildebeest takes the top spot once again. In the No. 3 spot, Splashin’ Safari’s Mammoth stands along with its little brother. Both installations are from ProSlide Technology.

Moving up several spots to No. 2, Krakatau Aqua Coaster at Volcano Bay powers itself up the charts. With its placement, ProSlide boasts the three top attractions.

Taking the win last year as BEST NEW WATER PARK RIDE, Aquatica Orlando’s Ray Rush appears on the charts for the first time. The multi-element raft ride is a creation of WhiteWater West.

The Falls, Schlitterbahn’s endless rapids masterpiece, completes the list of five finalists.

**Best Kids Area**

In a total takedown, Dollywood’s new Wildwood Grove has finally unseated the long running champ for BEST KIDS’ AREA.

“Dolly wanted Wildwood Grove to truly reflect the experiences she had as a little girl growing up here in the Great Smoky Mountains. As we started to develop the area and she began telling stories — some we had heard and some we hadn’t — we knew kids were going to love exploring the wilderness of Wildwood Grove she had dreamed up,” said Craig Ross, president, The Dollywood Company. “The attractions included in this tremendous land were selected because they reminded her of those same dreams and memories she had from her childhood. The Golden Ticket for BEST KIDS’ AREA reinforces what guests have been telling us since it opened; Wildwood Grove is a place where families can laugh, play and make memories together.”

The former Golden Ticket holder — for an astounding 18 years — is Kings Island in a very strong No. 2 spot. The Ohio theme park has showcased the Golden Ticket on signage within the Planet Snoopy area.

Canada’s Wonderland (No. 3) in Ontario finds itself on the charts in 2019. With more than 25 kids rides, including three family-friendly roller coasters, children are captivated for hours.

**Best Dark Ride**

A new winner surfaces for BEST DARK RIDE. Since its debut in 2001, the category has produced four different winners, with the latest being Pirates of the Caribbean: Battle for the Sunken Treasure at Shanghai Disneyland. Described by many industry professionals and observers as the world’s greatest ride, the three-year-old attraction has swashbuckled to the top.

Harry Potter and the Forbidden Journey — a five-year Golden Ticket winner — at Islands of Adventure holds the No. 2 spot.

Last year’s winner, Twilight Zone Tower of Terror at Disney Hollywood Studios lists at third. Disneyland’s Indiana Jones and the Temple of the Forbidden Eye (No. 4) and Haunted Mansion at Knoebels Amusement Resort (No. 5) complete the finalists.
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Best Innovation of 2019

One of Amusement Today’s new categories brings in the industry voice. Manufacturers and suppliers, as well as industry journalists, evaluated nominees provided by professionals within amusement attractions.

Innovations introduced in the past year had the potential to boost revenue, increase safety, improve the guest experience or offer new products.

The Best Innovation of 2019 Golden Ticket Award showcases the continued progress in creating dynamic changes for the benefit of the amusement industry in all of its facets. The broad strokes of the 2019 nominees demonstrate the ongoing effort to continually improve. Amusement Today applauds the accomplishments of the companies involved in making these great strides in innovation.

Best Innovation No. 1:
Loose Storage and Transfer System for Yukon Striker
Canada’s Wonderland (Vaughn, Ontario, Canada)
Canada’s Wonderland introduced a new loose article bin system at the station for the new dive coaster, Yukon Striker. There has been great interest among amusement parks in finding a system that is efficient and improves upon the guest experience, instead of making it an inconvenience.

Other loose article storage systems involve lockers outside of the queue which force the guest to be without their phone or bag for the duration of their wait in line.

The park devised a conveyor system to provide the opportunity for guests to keep their belongings with them while in the queue. Their items are placed in the bins, which hang from the conveyor apparatus, before boarding. Items are carried up above the coaster track over to the exit on the other side, in time for riders’ departure. This is all done securely, safely and all at no charge to the visitor.

There are two bins for large and small items. The cargo weight limit is 100 pounds for the large items, and 50 pounds for the smaller articles.

Best Innovation No. 2:
Solar Farm
Six Flags Great Adventure (Jackson, N.J.)
Six Flags took innovation a step further by announcing Six Flags Great Adventure in New Jersey is now almost fully solar powered. The park partnered with KDC Solar LLC for the project, which is divided into two main components: 11 megawatts of solar carports distributed over three parking lots, and 12.5 megawatts of ground mounted solar panels across 40 acres of land. Many parks in the amusement industry are starting to consider green energy, but Great Adventure is ahead of the game.

After ten years in development, the project ranks the park as New Jersey’s largest net metered solar project. More than just going green, the park addressed environmental concerns and preserved available forest and wetland areas by building the solar carports over Great Adventure’s parking lot — 40 acres of ground-mounted panels.

Conservationists for 45 years, the park has been faithful stewards of caring for 70 species of animals and has been a leader in recycling — more than 60 percent of its annual waste. Innovative thinking has turned the parking lot into an energy resource that provides 98 percent of the park’s power needs virtually eliminating all reliance on harmful fossil fuels.

Urban Air’s Immersive Reality Arena
Urban Air Southlake (Southlake, Texas)
Urban Air successfully launched the world’s first Immersive Reality Arena featuring patented gaming engines and hardware products that allow guests, to literally “Get in the Game!” The equipment transports them inside a fully-surrounded, 360-degree digital environment where all arena walls and trampoline floors come to life with animated gameplay imagery and cinematic sound.

Free of AR headsets, players interact with gameplay stories and characters in real life and time. UA patent sensor technology and game engine created by the Urban Air Innovation Lab, allows for speed tracking of fast-moving players and physical flying objects. This mixed reality experience allows gamers a fun tactile experience by integrating their gameplay with UA Adventure Park.

Patented Urban Air Snap ActionBands, RFID collectable wearables, also incentivize guest spending by tracking players points which are later redeemed for fun prizes through the Urban Air “Gear Up! Game On!” guest loyalty rewards App.

Best Innovation No. 3:
Dueling Dragons
Guangzhou Sunac Land (China)
This new coaster by Intamin features two trains. Its unique layout includes one suspended train and one traditional sit-down train. During the ride, they duel each other with several thrilling near-misses. The coaster uses Intamin’s LSM drive system, and the trains are simultaneously launched forward into the loop. Stalling by gravity in the loop, the trains then move backward, picking up even more speed (from the same LSM system that launched them earlier) until they reach the crest of a 50-metre high vertical spike.

During the launch and the loop, the coaster trains share a track structure, with one riding along the top and the other the underside of the structure. This unique design opens the door for the possibilities of parks offering two coasters that share/intertwine their structures, saving on costs and adding to spectacle.

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Lava Drifting (Spinning Rapids Ride)
Shanghai Haichang Ocean Park (Anhui Sheng, China), supplied by WhiteWater West
Lava Drifting, a Spinning Rapids Ride at Shanghai Haichang Ocean Park, China, is the world’s first spinning rapids ride with actual rapid rivers. Depicting a volcano theme, the ride combines the spins and twists of an exhilarating river rapids journey with the oscillating movements and steep drop from the wings of a Manta and centrifugal spins.

The ride differentiates the classic Spinning Rapids Flume Ride experience by including conveyor lifts, rapid rivers, tunnels, multiple drops, and of course the famous dizzying spins. Flowing through the park and around other attractions with elevated river channels that lead into and out of the ride flume, the ride is spread across different elevation points, coming to a finale with a steep drop into the Manta and oscillating exit.

From an engineering perspective, the Spinning Rapids Ride is a technical showcase. This ride required a control system to manage the world’s longest ride path with precision, safety and accuracy. The controls system integrates multi-zone control, advanced vehicle tracking and state-of-the-art safety elements. The patented spin technology of the water ride lends to it its thrilling spinning motion that gets accentuated with the actual river rapids — a first for any Spinning Rapids Ride to deploy.

See INNOVATIONS, page 50

Golden Ticket Awards September 2019
Canada’s Wonderland®
INNOVATION OF THE YEAR
Loose Article Storage System
INNOVATIONS
Continued from page 48

Environmentally Based Filtration System
SeaWorld San Antonio (San Antonio, Texas)
Turtle Reef, SeaWorld San Antonio’s new 126,000-gallon habitat for endangered and rescued sea turtles, was designed with an environmentally based recirculating filtration system that attracts wildlife, completes the ecology cycle, reduces water and energy consumption, and enables the park to further its eco-friendly mission.

SeaWorld has some of the most advanced water purification infrastructures in the world built into the foundation of its parks and uses these systems to reclaim and recycle wastewater for reuse. At Turtle Reef, man-made seawater is filtered through a fabricated salt marsh grass wetland, similar to how water is filtered in the environment, and returned to the habitat.

The use of a constructed saltwater marsh to filter the exhibit is a unique example of a biodynamic habitat, using natural elements and processes in an organic way. The team ultimately hopes that the marshland will begin a new standard in animal habitat filtration methods.

Fluidized Sand Bed Furnace
Ralph S. Alberts/Alberts Spray Solutions
Ralph S. Alberts installed a fluidized sand bed furnace to remove degraded foam, paint and powder coating from metal frames that provide the internal structure for amusement park ride equipment, without the release of hazardous air pollutants or harmful emissions. Once the organic compounds are removed from the frame, it can be inspected for safety, recoated and refloamed.

Dramatically cutting turn-around times and reducing energy consumption, the furnace provides an environmental benefit with a clean blast and burn-off process.

The innovative upgrade earned the Pennsylvania’s Department of Environmental Protection 2019 Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence.

In addition to the reduced process time, the new unit increases efficiency by using an automated loading system. The system requires only one start up each day.

The new system saves energy by using quartz sand as a heating medium. Since sand is significantly denser than air, energy is transferred to the polyurethane quicker therefore, each part requires less time in the oven and is prepped for paint / powder coat within the same cycle.
Fury 325 holds tight as Top Ten Steel Coasters twist and turn

Whether it be from an industry outsider or a park owner taking notes, there are some interesting observations to contemplate when analyzing the BEST STEEL COASTER charts.

On the chart listing the Top 25 favorites, only four were built prior to 2000. The list primarily showcases dynamic new designs built in the past two decades. Of the 25, only 10 go upside down. It is also noteworthy that only three in the Top Ten do not exceed at least 200 feet in height; 17 of the 25 coasters feature either a height or a drop of more than 200 feet. Amusement Today had its biggest response in its 20-plus-year Golden Ticket Award history from the world’s most experienced and well-traveled coaster fanatics. Avid fans have their criteria when rating the hundreds and hundreds of coasters ridden.

The top three remain unchanged from 2018, despite each of the three having its devoted following from hardcore fans. Carowinds’ Fury 325 retains its grip on the Golden Ticket Award at the top spot — 325 feet up to be exact.

“We are incredibly excited that Fury 325 has won best steel coaster in the world for the fourth consecutive year! It is truly humbling, but certainly reinforces what an unbelievably intense and exhilarating ride experience Fury 325 provides our guests year after year,” said General Manager Pat Jones. “I personally believe it’s the best steel coaster as well, but I know there are some truly remarkable new rides out there looking to make their mark.”

Keeping their respective places at No. 2 and No. 3, Cedar Point has two distinctly different giants. Millennium Force focuses on speed and smooth transitions. Steel Vengeance is simply the wildest ride in the West. Not only can Cedar Point boast two steel coasters in the Top Ten, but also an astonishing five on the Top 25 chart. The park has become synonymous with towering, record-setting coasters.

From there, the list juggles a bit when compared to 2018. Switching places, Six Flags New England sees Superman: The Ride inching back up into the No. 4 position. Expedition GeForce at Germany’s Holiday Park holds the highest rated international coaster at No. 5. Both of these, along with Millennium Force give Intamin Amusement Rides three of the top five steel coasters.

Twisted Colossus at Six Flags Magic Mountain takes the largest leap, jumping up an astounding number of positions over 2018 to the No. 6 spot. The intertwined, racing attraction delivers an unequalled coaster experience when the trains align just right. Twisted Colossus is a Rocky Mountain Construction (RMC) project, as is the No. 7 placeholder, Iron Rattler at Six Flags Fiesta Texas (as well as the No. 3 Steel Vengeance). These RMC projects are the only steel coasters in the Top Ten to go upside down.

Bolliger & Mabillard (B&M) rounds out the rest of the Top Ten. Along with the Golden Ticket winner, B&M has massive steel favorites in the Nos. 8, 9 and 10 positions: Apollo’s Chariot at Busch Gardens Williamsburg, Leviathan at Canada’s Wonderland, and Nitro at Six Flags Great Adventure.

Both Cedar Fair and Six Flags Theme Parks have four contenders in the Top Ten. The only newcomer to the Top 25 chart is Steel Dragon 2000 (No. 24) at Nagashima Spa Land in Japan. A recent tour of that country found numerous enthusiasts adding the 318-foot coaster to their list of favorites. Currently, Steel Dragon 2000 is the longest coaster in the world.

Along with Expedition GeForce, Leviathan and Steel Dragon 2000, Nemesis (No. 16) at Alton Towers, Taron (No. 17) at Phantasialand, Helix (No. 19) at Liseberg, and Blue Fire at Europa-Park comprise the seven coasters on the Top 25 chart outside of the United States.

The oldest roller coaster on the chart is Schwarzkopf’s Mind Bender (No. 25) at Six Flags Over Georgia. The long beloved looping coaster opened in 1978.

See the full Top 50 Steel Coasters at GoldenTicketAwards.com.
CONGRATULATIONS
Carowinds® and Fury 325®
# THE LIST

## 2019 TOP 25 STEEL ROLLER COASTERS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>PARK</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>SUPPLIER</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fury 325</td>
<td>Carowinds</td>
<td>Charlotte, N.C.</td>
<td>B&amp;M</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<td>Steel Vengeance</td>
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<td>Sandusky, Ohio</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Expedition GeForce</td>
<td>Holiday Park</td>
<td>Hassloch, Germany</td>
<td>Intamin</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Twisted Colossus</td>
<td>Six Flags Magic Mountain</td>
<td>Valencia, Calif.</td>
<td>Rocky Mountain</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Iron Rattler</td>
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<td>San Antonio, Texas</td>
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<td>Apollo’s Chariot</td>
<td>Busch Gardens Williamsburg</td>
<td>Williamsburg, Va.</td>
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<td>Leviathan</td>
<td>Canada’s Wonderland</td>
<td>Vaughan, Ontario, Canada</td>
<td>B&amp;M</td>
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<td>Mason, Ohio</td>
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<td>Cedar Point</td>
<td>Sandusky, Ohio</td>
<td>Intamin</td>
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<td>Time Traveler</td>
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<td>Branson, Mo.</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 tie</td>
<td>Blue Fire</td>
<td>Europa-Park</td>
<td>Rust, Germany</td>
<td>Mack</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 tie</td>
<td>X2</td>
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<td>Valencia, Calif.</td>
<td>Arrow</td>
<td>2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Mind Bender</td>
<td>Six Flags Over Georgia</td>
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<td>Schwarzkopf</td>
<td>1978</td>
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</tbody>
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Phoenix still soars at No. 1, other woodies jockey for position

After the 2018 rise of Knoebels’ Phoenix into Golden Ticket position for BEST WOODEN COASTER, the question remains: Can it stay? The answer is yes. Phoenix, a Top Ten lister since the Golden Tickets started in 1998, had inched its way to the top spot over the past two decades. Lovingly maintained by the Knoebels clan, a legion of enthusiasts consider it the quintessential example of the pure thrills given by a wooden coaster.

“Earning this distinction two years in a row is an honor for which we feel appreciation beyond words. This is a testament to our team’s dedication to maintaining this classic coaster,” said Dick Knoebel, maestro behind the world-renowned Knoebels Amusement Resort. “When Phoenix was named Best Wooden Coaster in 2018, they knew their efforts had to continue to provide a great ride experience for generations to come.”

Originally built in 1948 by Herb Schmeck of Philadelphia Toboggan Co., the defunct woodie from Playland Park in San Antonio was carefully reborn in Pennsylvania, only to reach greater acclaim. It is one of seven wooden coasters on the list designated as an ACE Roller Coaster Landmark from American Coaster Enthusiasts.

Holiday World’s Voyage (a creation of The Gravity Group) nudges its way back up to the No. 2 spot. Having received a number of track upgrades in 2019, the wildly daring woodie is giving hang-on-for-dear-life voyages every operating day.

El Toro at Six Flags Great Adventure (No. 3) and Boulder Dash at Lake Compounce (No. 4) complete a grouping of finalists that have all held the No. 1 spot at some point. Each of these demonstrate the initiative of going afield of typical thinking and forging into doing something noteworthy, even if each direction taken was down a different path.

That same ambition could be said of the No. 5 wooden coaster. The world record-holding Beast at Kings Island is legendary. The 7,359-foot-long backwoods monster is celebrating a 40th anniversary this season, and Kings Island has accented the ride and the surrounding area with memorable touches.

The biggest climb in 2019 was delivered by GhostRider at Knott’s Berry Farm (No. 6). It’s continued rise, attributed to Cedar Fair contracting with Great Coasters International, Inc. to rehaul the entire ride a few years back, has reinvigorated fans to fall in love with the ride once again. GhostRider surges into the Top Ten for the first time this year.

Two wooden coasters by Rocky Mountain Construction insert a pair of wicked layouts into the Top Ten. Lightning Rod at Dollywood and Outlaw Run at Silver Dollar City place at Nos. 7 and 8 respectively.

Flyer 2 at Waldameer (No. 9) makes it 11 years in a row in the Top Ten, while Mystic Timbers at Kings Island inches its way into that list of elite wooden coasters in the Top Ten spot this year. Kings Island is the only park to have two wooden coasters in the Top Ten.

In contrast to the steel charts, several wooden coasters were built prior to the new millennium — nine. The two oldest on the list date back to the 1920s, Kennywood’s Jack Rabbit (1920) and Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk’s Giant Dipper (1924).

Two wooden coasters not on the Top 25 chart last year appear this season, one returning and one for the first time. The Comet at The Great Escape (No. 19) is, like Phoenix, another success story of preservation. The Herb Schmeck woodie operated at Crystal Beach from 1948 until the park’s closure in 1989. The Comet regained new life in 1994 under the same name in New York. Valleyfair’s Renegade (from Great Coasters International), often surprising well-travelled enthusiasts as being an undiscovered gem, finally enters the chart at No. 24.

Four wooden coasters outside the United States roar into the limelight of the charts: Balder (No. 13), an Intamin creation along with El Toro, is a fan favorite at Liseberg. Wildfire at Kolmården (No. 16), Wodan at Europa-Park (No. 23) and Troy at Toverland (No. 25) all have worldwide appeal.

See the Top 50 at GoldenTicketAwards.com.
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## THE LIST

### 2019 TOP 25 WOODEN ROLLER COASTERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>PARK</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>SUPPLIER</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Phoenix</td>
<td>Knoebels</td>
<td>Elysburg, Pa.</td>
<td>Dinn-PTC/Schmeck</td>
<td>1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Voyage</td>
<td>Holiday World</td>
<td>Santa Claus, Ind.</td>
<td>The Gravity Group</td>
<td>2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>El Toro</td>
<td>Six Flags Great Adventure</td>
<td>Jackson, N.J.</td>
<td>Intamin</td>
<td>2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>BoulderDash</td>
<td>Lake Compounce</td>
<td>Bristol, Conn.</td>
<td>Custom Coasters</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Beast</td>
<td>Kings Island</td>
<td>Mason, Ohio</td>
<td>KECO</td>
<td>1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Lightning Rod</td>
<td>Dollywood</td>
<td>Pigeon Forge, Tenn.</td>
<td>Rocky Mountain</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Outlaw Run</td>
<td>Silver Dollar City</td>
<td>Branson, Mo.</td>
<td>Rocky Mountain</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mystic Timbers</td>
<td>Kings Island</td>
<td>Mason, Ohio</td>
<td>Great Coasters Intl.</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Thunderhead</td>
<td>Dollywood</td>
<td>Pigeon Forge, Tenn.</td>
<td>Great Coasters Intl.</td>
<td>2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Gold Striker</td>
<td>California’s Great America</td>
<td>Santa Clara, Calif.</td>
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<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Balder</td>
<td>Liseberg</td>
<td>Gothenburg, Sweden</td>
<td>Intamin</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
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<td>Hersheypark</td>
<td>Hershey, Pa.</td>
<td>Great Coasters Intl.</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Wildfire</td>
<td>Kolmården</td>
<td>Norrköping, Sweden</td>
<td>Rocky Mountain</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Giant Dipper</td>
<td>Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk</td>
<td>Santa Cruz, Calif.</td>
<td>Prior &amp; Church/Looff</td>
<td>1924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Thunderbolt</td>
<td>Kennywood</td>
<td>West Mifflin, Pa.</td>
<td>Vettel/Miller</td>
<td>1968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Comet</td>
<td>The Great Escape</td>
<td>Lake George, N.Y.</td>
<td>PTC/Schmeck</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Jack Rabbit</td>
<td>Kennywood</td>
<td>West Mifflin, Pa.</td>
<td>Miller</td>
<td>1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Raven</td>
<td>Holiday World</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>White Lightning</td>
<td>Fun Spot</td>
<td>Orlando, Fla.</td>
<td>Great Coasters Intl.</td>
<td>2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Wodan</td>
<td>Europa-Park</td>
<td>Rust, Germany</td>
<td>Great Coasters Intl.</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Renegade</td>
<td>Valleyfair</td>
<td>Shakopee, Minn.</td>
<td>Great Coasters Intl.</td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Troy</td>
<td>Toverland</td>
<td>Sevenum, Netherlands</td>
<td>Great Coasters Intl.</td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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