



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **GANONDAGAN WINS AWARD AS “LEADER IN TOURISM”**

### *Victor Business Awards Recognize Ganondagan at Luncheon*

Victor, NY—**Ganondagan State Historic Site** was recognized by the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual **Victor Business Awards** as the **2011 “Leader in Tourism”** at an awards luncheon yesterday at Cobblestone Creek Country Club in Victor. Ganondagan Site Manager Peter Jemison accepted the award, which is presented to a Victor tourist attraction or individual that has proven to provide a unique and exciting tourism experience. The criteria includes why the venue is attractive to tourists, how it impacts the local economy, as well as its overall contribution to raising Victor’s image.

“We at Ganondagan State Historic Site are honored by this award, and want to thank the Victor Local Development Corporation,” said Jemison. “We also need to recognize our Friends of Ganondagan organization which creates, produces, and provides the wonderful events and programming that bring so many visitors to the Site. The creation of the Bark Longhouse also has contributed to our popularity among school groups, tourists, and visitors from around Victor as well as those who come to us from around the region, the country, and the world.”

Modeled after the U.S. Small Administration’s Business Awards, the Victor Business Awards were started in 2005 as a way to recognize Victor’s dedicated business owners that contribute to the local economy. According to the Victor Development Corporation, “businesses are given awards not only for their continued efforts and many achievements, but also to call attention to those individuals within the community that go above and beyond.”

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**Ganondagan State Historic Site** ([www.ganondagan.org](http://www.ganondagan.org)) in Victor, NY stands at the location of what was one of the largest, most vital 17<sup>th</sup>-century Seneca towns until its destruction in 1687. Today, it is a destination for visitors to explore the replica of a bark longhouse and hunting lodge and enjoy self-guided tours through trails on the Site’s 600+ acres. It also acts as a resource for students and educators about the Iroquois Confederacy, or Haudenosaunee, and its message of peace. Every summer, *Friends of Ganondagan* hosts the Native American Dance & Music Festival, attended by more than 4,000 people from all over the world. *Friends* also sponsors the annual Canandaigua Treaty Day and presents lectures, workshops, and programs reflecting the vibrancy of a living culture and promoting a sustainable future.