



**LAGRANGE**  
GEORGIA

**News Release**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**January 22, 2018**

## **City of LaGrange Receives 2018 Live, Work, Play City Award**

**Atlanta, Ga. January 22, 2018** – On Jan. 21, the City of LaGrange received a 2018 Live, Work, Play City Award presented by the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA), in conjunction with *Georgia Trend* magazine, during GMA’s annual Mayors’ Day conference in Atlanta.



There were a total of nine cities in three population categories—small (population under 4,999), medium (5,000-24,999) and large (more than 25,000)—that received this year’s award. These cities will be featured in the February 2018 issue of *Georgia Trend*.

*Pictured from left to right, front row; Mayor Jim Thornton, City Manager Meg Kelsey, City Councilman Dr. Tom Gore. Back row; City Councilman Nathan Gaskin, City Councilman Mark Mitchell, City Councilman Jim Arrington.*

## Recipients of the 2018 Live, Work, Play Cities Award:

### Small City Winners

- Chickamauga
- Porterdale
- Summerville

### Medium City Winners

- Cartersville
- Decatur
- Thomasville

### Large City Winners

- LaGrange
- Athens-Clarke County
- Columbus

Though each city provides different services, contest judges praised the winning cities for their success in advancing job creation, housing offerings, and recreational amenities.

Judges for the 2018 Live, Work, Play Cities Award represented Georgia Power's office of Community & Economic Impact, the Department of Community Affairs and the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government.



*The City of LaGrange competed in the Large City Category, more than 25,000 population*

In addition to being recognized during GMA's Mayors' Day, winning cities will be highlighted in the association's monthly newspaper, *Georgia's Cities*.

“These nine cities truly embody well-rounded communities that benefit residents and businesses alike,” said GMA Executive Director Larry Hanson.

“They also serve as examples for local governments across Georgia. Officials in these cities have demonstrated advanced problem-solving, exceptional management and teamwork to increase the overall quality of life for all residents. GMA is honored to serve all of our member cities and especially proud of these award recipients.”

To see the video associated with the City of LaGrange’s application click on this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/lgtv.org/videos/1620819821273093/>

Based in Atlanta, GMA is a voluntary, non-profit organization that provides legislative advocacy, research, training, employee benefit and technical consulting services to its 521 member cities.

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To keep up with the latest news involving the City of LaGrange, go to [www.lagrangega.org](http://www.lagrangega.org) or follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/lagrangegov](https://www.facebook.com/lagrangegov), Twitter at [@lagrangegov](https://twitter.com/lagrangegov), & Instagram at [instagram.com/cityoflagrangega](https://www.instagram.com/cityoflagrangega)

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