



ACTIVE LIFESTYLE VEHICLE AWARDS

We participate in vehicle comparison events with press associations in the Pacific Northwest, Texas, California and so on. Our Phoenix press association does not run one, but member Nina Russin runs her own.

The Carspondent.com Active Lifestyle Vehicle of the Year (ALV) awards—the only car-of-the-year competition that combines input from automotive media with that of elite area athletes—ran its 2015 model year event in October, at the Local Motors micro-factory in Chandler.

This was the most competitive ALV in program history, with 30 vehicles from over a dozen manufacturers, a couple of dozen automotive journalists and close to 100 athletes. Winners were often determined within just hundredths of a point.

(Shown at left, top to bottom)

BEST VALUE ON-ROAD

\$35,000 or less, primarily for on-road driving
2015 Dodge Journey Crossroad

BEST VALUE OFF-ROAD

\$35,000 or less with true off-road capability
2015 Subaru Outback

LUXURY ON-ROAD

Over \$35,000, primarily for on-road driving
2015 Mercedes-Benz C400 4MATIC

LUXURY OFF-ROAD

Over \$35,000 with true off-road capability
2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee EcoDiesel

(Shown at right, top to bottom)

BEST VALUE FAMILY

Three rows of seating priced at or below \$40,000
2015 Dodge Durango

LUXURY FAMILY

Three rows of seating priced above \$40,000
2015 Cadillac Escalade

URBAN

Vehicles with a small footprint for \$20,000 or less
2015 Kia Soul

GREEN ALV

Alternative fuel vehicles
2015 Volkswagen Golf TDI

Athletes on hand included members of Arizona Legends, retired NFL players of Arizona, representatives from Sole Sports Running Zone, Fit Mom Diet and Fit Fathers, elite runners, triathletes, paddlers, cyclists, swimmers and more. ■



LOCAL MOTORS ALV CONCEPT

This year's ALV program also featured the second annual Local Motors ALV design competition sponsored by XPEL Technologies Corp. of San Antonio—well known in the automotive community for its protective self-healing films.

Arizona-based Local Motors regularly utilizes a global community of designers and engineers to co-create vehicles using open sourcing. In parallel with the Carspondent.com Active Lifestyle of the Year, Local Motors (who hosts ALV) held their second annual ALV Concept Blast, attracting nearly fifty entries from their global group of designers and engineers.

"We had a lot of fun this year," said Local Motors design community director, Nyko dePeyer, "and are really looking forward to the next ALV design challenge."

The ALV Concept Blast challenged the community to design an active lifestyle vehicle incorporating XPEL's products as well as athletic gear. Local Motors received forty entries, out of which the global community itself and ALV of the Year event participants selected five winners. They included:

FIRST PLACE (SHOWN BELOW):

XPEL Runner by Cosmin Mandita

SECOND PLACE (SHOWN BELOW):

HXPEL Concept by Huynh Ngoc Lan

THIRD PLACE:

Sandstorm by Kai Y

INNOVATION AWARD (SHOWN BELOW):

Mitsubishi Urban Utility Truck by JW Design

HONORABLE MENTION:

SurfWAGEN by Shaun Mergulhao •

