

August 30, 2024

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Happy Labor Day!



As we celebrate Labor Day next week, we'd like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all our hospitality partners and professionals, CFHLA members, and our amazing team who has worked tirelessly over the past year. By working together, it's clear that our collective efforts have made a meaningful difference and a positive impact on our local community.

Here's to looking back with pride on what we've achieved and forward with excitement. Wishing each of you a wonderful and restful Labor Day weekend from all of us at the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association!

Our CFHLA Office will be closed on Monday, September 2 in honor of the Labor Day holiday.

Central Florida's Tourism Industry Reached Record \$92.5 Billion In Economic Impact in 2023

TOURISM BENEFITS YOU

When 74 million people visit

Orange, Osceola, and Seminole Counties
our entire community benefits

ANNUAL TOURISM TO CENTRAL FLORIDA









Tourism saves each household \$7,400 in annual taxes

TAXES FROM TOURISM HELPS PAY FOR

















Source: Tourism Franchi

Last week, CFHLA, <u>Visit Orlando</u>, <u>Experience Kissimmee</u>, and <u>Seminole County</u> released new research by Tourism Economics revealing that the Central Florida's tourism and hospitality industry reached a **new all-time high economic impact of \$92.5 billion in 2023** - a 5.6% increase over the previous year.

According to the new research, visitor spending also surged by 5.4%, totaling **\$58.5 billion**. This impressive growth resulted in an economic impact that was equivalent to hosting the NFL Super Bowl nearly twice a week for an entire year.

Furthermore, Central Florida welcomed 74 million visitors in 2023, including 6 million international visitors, and once again solidified its status as the most visited destination in the U.S. Additionally, **spending by international visitors grew by 29%** in 2023, reaching \$5.4 billion and **accounting for 9% of all spending**.

Moreover, Central Florida's hospitality industry supported **464,000 community jobs in 2023** throughout various sectors, which represented a 3% increase from 2022 and now accounts for nearly **37% of all jobs in the entire Central Florida region**. This includes the **\$27.3 billion in wages and benefits** that were paid to our local residents who worked within the hospitality industry last year.

Lastly, **state and local taxes** collected from visitor activity increased by 5.3% in 2023, reaching **\$6.6 billion**. Tourism revenue continues to fund essential services in the region, such as fire and law enforcement personnel, school teachers and infrastructure, which **saves each household an average of \$7,400 in annual taxes**.

<u>CLICK HERE</u> to learn more about the 2023 Economic Impact of Central Florida Tourism and please share this great news.

2024 CFHLA Hospitality Tradeshow



This week, CFHLA invited our members and hospitality lodging professionals to go for the gold and join us at the 2024 CFHLA Hospitality Tradeshow (formerly known as the HEAT) at the Walt Disney World Dolphin Resort (Thank You, Sean Verney, Area General Manager).

This year's tradeshow was our **largest to date** with more than **700 lodging professionals and another 220+ exhibitors** in attendance. Throughout the day, our allied members had the opportunity to share more about the wide

array of products and services that they are able to provide for our lodging members and the hospitality industry.

Additionally, we were thrilled to have **seven outstanding member properties and some of the top culinary talents in the region**, including Michelin Star and Michelin Recommended restaurants, who showcased their top culinary skills and complimentary savory samples during this year's Ultimate Chef Competition!

Thank you again to all of our lodging attendees who visited throughout the day and we thank our sponsors and allied partners for their fun and engaging exhibit booths, which truly embraced the "Olympic Spirit."

Be sure to check out next week's Back of House for more photos from the 2024 CFHLA Hospitality Tradeshow!







Thank You to Our Corporate Sponsors:























<u>Ultimate Chef Competition Sponsors:</u>





HEAT Support Sponsors:







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Audio Video Sponsor

Photo Op Sponsor

Aisle Signage Sponsor







Coffee Sponsor

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2024 CFHLA Hospitality Tradeshow Honorees:

Ultimate Chef Competition



1st Place (2nd Year in a Row)

Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress

Fish ribs, rum glazed pacu, chimi, gojuchange, and pineapple pickle

2nd Place

Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort

Heritage pork potsticker, pasture raised Kurobata pork dumplings, crispy sushi rice, BBQ eel glaze, soy ginger emulsion, avosabi puree, tentsuyu caviar

3rd Place

Reunion Resort & Golf Club

Seared scallops St. Jacques comte momay, wild mushroom, meyer lemon gremolata, pepper melange, parmesan crisp



People's Choice Grand Bohemian Hotel Orlando

Watermelon sorbet, citrus spheres / smoked salmon cornet, caviar

Best Exhibitor Booths



1st Place

Xpodigital

2nd Place

Your Environments Solution

3rd Place

HotelPro

Best Exhibitor Marketing Email Campaign

1st Place

Energy Products

2nd Place

Staff Pro Workforce Solutions

3rd Place

Aderhold Roofing

CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE BODY AD

2024 Mid-Year Legal Update - HR Seminar #2



On Tuesday, August 27, CFHLA hosted our second **Human Resources Seminar** before the start of our annual Hospitality Tradeshow at the <u>Walt</u> **Disney World Dolphin Resort**.

This seminar featured **a Mid-Year Legal Update**, which included information on the new Department of Labor Rules, joint employer rules, and updates on other significant changes that have been enacted recently.

Thank you to **Tasos Paindiris from <u>Jackson Lewis</u>**, for this week's presentation and your continued partnership with our annual HR Seminar Series!

Lastly, we would also like to thank CFHLA Secretary and Area General Manager **Sean Verney**, the entire team of Walt Disney World Dolphin Resort, and our outstanding sponsors for collaborating together to host this important annual HR Seminar!

Our final HR Seminar of the year will be held on October 17th and <u>CLICK</u> <u>HERE</u> to register and learn more.

Thank You to Our Sponsors including:

Presenting Sponsor:

JacksonLewis

Corporate Sponsors:









Leadership Development Seminar #3 - Resilient Leadership

CFHLA also hosted its third seminar of our new **Leadership Development Series** at this year's Hospitality Tradeshow.

This newest seminar featured an interactive presentation by **Dr. Fevzi Okumus** of <u>UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management</u>, where he discussed effective strategies for navigating crisis management and cultivating a positive work environment. Attendees also participated in a self-

assessment to identify their own leadership styles and learn how to improve their resilience moving forward.

Thank you, Dr. Fevzi Okumus for your thoughtful and engaging presentation!

Join us for final Leadership Development Seminar Series of the year on October 3rd and <u>CLICK HERE</u> to register and learn more.



Join us for the CFHLA Security & Safety Council Casino Night Next Week



Last Chance to Register for the Upcoming Patriot Day Remembrance Breakfast

Registration will close at noon on Wednesday, September 6.







REMEMBRANCE BREAKFAST

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2024 | 8:00AM - 9:30AM

Hyatt Regency Orlando (9801 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819)



Emcee: NANCY ALVAREZ Anchor/Reporter WESH 2 News



Keynote Speaker:
RICK KETTELL
Former FAA Air Traffic Manager



Honorary Chairman: THOMAS SMOTHERS Fire Chief, Ocoee Fire Department

This community breakfast will include a remembrance of the victims of the tragic events of September 11, 2001 and awards distribution to local First Responders for "Above and Beyond" service in the line of duty.



REGISTRATION FEE: \$50/ PERSON OR \$400 / TABLE OF 8

Consider donating a ticket for a local first responder.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

PRESENTING SPONSOR:





For questions, please contact Faith Moore at faith.moore@cfhla.org or 407-313-5015.

Registration Now Open - Final After-Hours Networking Reception of the Year



2024 Florida Governor's Conference on Tourism



This week, CFHLA was excited to join nearly 1,000 tourism and hospitality industry professionals, allied vendors, travel experts, educational partners and state leaders to network and to explore the latest trends and opportunities for the industry moving forward at the **Florida Governor's Conference on Tourism** in Tampa, Florida.

With this being the premier educational conference for Florida's tourism and hospitality industry, CFHLA is looking forward to bringing back new ideas and opportunities, along with actionable strategies, that will help drive change within our destination and serve our industry even better.

Thank you, <u>VISIT FLORIDA</u>, for inviting us to the Conference and we truly appreciated the kind hospitality from all of our local partners including <u>Experience Kissimmee</u>, <u>Seminole County Tourism</u> and <u>Visit Orlando</u>.





Partners In Action - Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando Airport

CFHLA Lodging Member, the <u>Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando Airport</u>, recently hosted teachers and staff from their Adopt-A-School partner, <u>Lake</u> <u>George Elementary School</u>, for breakfast at the property.



Thank you to the team at the Embassy Suites Orlando Airport for your continued support of our CFHLA Adopt-A-School program!

NEW TO THE CITY, NOT TO PLANTS.

Elevate your hotel's atmosphere with us.





CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AUGUST MEMBERS OF THE MONTH



Lonnie Williams

<u>DoubleTree by Hilton Orlando at the</u>

Entrance to Universal Orlando



Stefanie Mizrahi

Addition Financial

UPCOMING EVENTS

For more information on upcoming events, or to register, just click on the button below.

- Halloween Golf Committee Meeting (9/4/2024)
- Engineers Council Board Meeting (9/5/2024)
- Vacation Ownership Council Meeting (9/5/2024)
- 2024 Security & Safety Council Casino Night (9/5/2024)
- Hospitality Gala Committee Meeting (9/9/2024)
- 2024 Patriot Day Remembrance Breakfast (9/11/2024)
- Wednesday AM Leads Group Meeting (9/11/2024)
- Wednesday Noon Leads Group (9/11/2024)

Click Here to View Upcoming

JOB OPENINGS

Check out the latest hospitality employment opportunities in Central Florida.

VIEW JOB POSTINGS

CONNECT WITH CFHLA



WWW.CFHLA.ORG

About CFHLA

6675 Westwood Blvd #210, Orlando, FL 32821

The mission of the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association is to represent the Central Florida Hospitality Industry, by setting the standard of excellence through advocacy, collaboration, education, recognition, and service.