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CFHLA ANNOUNCES THE INAUGURAL DISTINGUISHED LEADERS IN HOSPITALITY AWARDS

This New Industry Recognition Event Highlighted Our Regional Hospitality Leaders Who Inspire Teams and Great Guest Experiences

ORLANDO, FL (November 13, 2024) – On Tuesday, November 12, 2024, the **Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association (CFHLA)** hosted the **Distinguished Leaders in Hospitality Awards**. This inaugural awards reception was held at the **DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Orlando at SeaWorld**, and it was designed to recognize the most inspiring leaders within Central Florida’s hospitality and tourism industry.

Throughout the evening, nearly 100 hospitality professionals were recognized after being nominated by 40 of our Central Florida hotels and resorts, for their strong record of leading by example, inspiring their team members, and making sure our guests continue to have amazing experiences when they visit their properties.

In total, more than 300 hospitality professionals attended the awards reception, including hotel and resort managers, department heads, and human resources employees from across the Central Florida region.

Please join us in congratulating the following **six hospitality professionals**, as the inaugural honorees in each of the designated categories.

The **2024 Distinguished Leaders in Hospitality Awards** winners include:

Distinguished Leader in Sales, Marketing & Revenue
Carrine Allen, **Grand Bohemian Hotel Orlando**

Distinguished Leader in Culinary
Hans Encluna, **Hyatt Regency Orlando**

Distinguished Leader in Operations
Ronald Carroz Castillo, **Grand Beach a Hilton Vacation Club**

Distinguished Leader in Events & Meetings
Carl Bronislawski, **Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport**

Distinguished Leader in Support Services/ Back Office
Marie Dominguez, **DoubleTree by Hilton Orlando at SeaWorld**

Emerging Hospitality Leader
Sthefany Leon Sanchez, **Wyndham Lake Buena Vista Disney Springs Resort Area**

Robert Agrusa, President and CEO of the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association, says these Distinguished Leaders in Hospitality honorees are a shining example of the dedication and inspiration that is continually exhibited from our professionals within the industry. Agrusa says, "Our inaugural group of dynamic and diverse award winners inspire their teams every day to be the driving force behind amazing guest experiences that keeps people coming back to visit Central Florida again and again. These dedicated managers and emerging leaders have also helped to elevate the perception of the hospitality industry, by demonstrating significant career development and representing outstanding leadership within our industry."

About Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association

The Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association's mission is to represent the Central Florida Hospitality Industry, by setting the standard of excellence through advocacy, collaboration, education, recognition, and service. As the largest regional lodging association in the United States, CFHLA represents approximately 80 percent of the more than 129,500 hotel rooms throughout the Central Florida Region (including but not limited to Lake, Orange, Osceola, Polk and Seminole counties) and more than 500 "supplier" organizations that do business with the hospitality and tourism industries.

For more information on the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association, please visit www.cfhla.org.

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