NEWS





For Immediate Release

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INDUSTRY LEADERS TO PRESENT WINNERS OF THE FIRST ANNUAL BOUTIQUE & LIFESTYLE HOSPITALITY AWARDS AT SPECIAL LUNCHEON EVENT AS PART OF HOSPITALITY DESIGN BOUTIQUE EXPOSITION & CONFERENCE

PRODUCED BY <u>BOUTIQUE & LIFESTYLE LODGING ASSOCIATION</u> (BLLA) IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
HOSPITALITY DESIGN MAGAZINE (HD), TOP PERFORMING PROPERTIES WERE INVITED TO COMPETE IN
SIX CATEGORIES

Event to Also Feature Hospitality CEOs in a "State of the Industry" Panel

Miami Beach, Florida *(September 7, 2010)* – Hospitality leaders and design luminaries from cutting-edge architecture, interior design, purchasing, consulting firms, and from across industry segments including restaurants, hotels, spas and more, will gather together at a special awards <u>luncheon on September 15, 2010</u> from 12:30 -2 p.m. during the second and final day of the Hospitality Design Boutique Exposition, held at the Miami Beach Convention Center. Categories for the awards include: Design & Architecture; Sustainability; Food & Beverage; Customer Service; Marketing & Sales; and Occupancy & RevPAR. The Awards will celebrate, for the first time ever, top performing boutique properties that have raised the bar.

Produced by the **Boutique & Lifestyle Lodging Association** (BLLA) in partnership with Hospitality Design Magazine (HD), the awards are set to become the universal benchmark for recognition of quality among the <u>boutique and lifestyle lodging</u> industry and, is the only one among many hospitality awards worldwide that is dedicated exclusively to the boutique and lifestyle hospitality industry sector. The Awards present opportunities for properties to be recognized for achieving overall success within a number of important and equally weighted categories.

The Luncheon Awards event includes a CEO Panel moderated by John Russell, CEO, NYLO Hotels, on the subject of the 'State of the Industry for Boutique & Lifestyle properties'. The esteemed panelists include: Michael Depatie, CEO, Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants; Jim Chu, Sr. Vice President, Hyatt (Hyatt

Place); Raul Leal, President of Tecton Hospitality and Desires Hotels; and Janis Cannon, Vice President, Hotel Indigo - IHG Global Brand Management.

The finalists that have excelled in the six categories and are being considered for the top awards are:

Boutique Hotel of the Year:

The Clifton Hotel, Miami Beach, FL
The Iron Horse Hotel, Milwaukee, WI
The Jupiter Hotel, Portland, OR
The Keating Hotel, San Diego, CA
The Sedona Rouge Hotel & Spa, Sedona, AZ
The Zazen Boutique Resort & Spa, Koh Samui, Thailand

Lifestyle Hotel of the Year:

The Hotel Andaluz, Albuquerque, NM
The Hotel Felix, Chicago, IL
Hotel-G, Beijing, China
The Ritz Carlton, Charlotte, NC
Sir Francis Drake, a Kimpton Hotel, San Francisco, CA
The Westlake Village Inn, Westlake Village, CA

Boutique & Lifestyle Hotelier of the Year:

Tim and Kit Kemp from Firmdale Hotels, London Larry, Michael and Jason Pomeranc and Stephen Brandman of Thompson Hotels Fred Kleisner, Morgans Hotel Group Chip Conley, Joie de Vivre Carlos Couturier, co-founder of Mexico's Grupo Habita

The HD Boutique Exposition and Conference that will take place on September 14th and 15th at the Miami Beach Conference Center differentiates itself from any other tradeshow with its distinct style and unique venue, creating a more personal event where relationships are built and new products are discovered. The intimate scale of HD Boutique allows the demonstration of the best design elements from both the largest manufacturers to the most exquisite artisans, providing an inspiring array of ideas and products.

To attend the event, please go the Boutique & Lifestyle Lodging Awards: Register Here

About The Boutique & Lifestyle Lodging Association (BLLA)

The Boutique & Lifestyle Lodging Association (BLLA) is the first and only association dedicated to uniting the world's boutique and lifestyle hotels for the benefit of properties and suppliers as well as travelers. Created to be the unifying voice of this distinctive subset within the hospitality industry. BLLA's goal is to unite the world's collection of boutique & lifestyle properties and the suppliers that sustain them, offering them the opportunity to successfully compete on a level playing field with major hotel companies, as well as market themselves to meet the ever-increasing demand from discerning boutique-seeking clients. For more information or to become a member visit www.blla.org.

About Hospitality Design Magazine

Hospitality Design (HD) magazine, published 10 times a year, is the premier trade magazine serving the field of hospitality design. It connects owners, operators, purchasing agents, designers, and architects involved in the design of hotels, resorts, restaurants, cruise ships, nightclubs/lounges, spas, and all other hospitality-oriented projects. HD continues its 30-plus-year mission to publish the accomplishments of

various design teams that collaborate to bring the most innovative examples of new construction and renovation to the industry. *Hospitality Design* links buyers and sellers through various trade shows, conferences, products, services and awards.

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