



ARIZONA
HOTEL & LODGING
ASSOCIATION

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Lodging Industry Doles Out Awards for Top Service and Hotel Programs at 2010 “Stars of the Industry” Luncheon

Phoenix, AZ – (December 2010) –The shining stars of the hospitality industry were celebrated at the annual Arizona Hotel & Lodging Association’s (AzHLA) **Stars of the Industry** awards luncheon, held last week at The InterContinental Montelucia Resort.

The Stars of the Industry award was created more than 40 years ago by the American Hotel & Lodging Association to recognize outstanding accomplishments in the lodging industry. While the categories have evolved over the years, the concept is still the same—to honor lodging employees who best symbolize the quality service of the industry.

“We’re wrapping up one of the most challenging years in our industry’s history and I can’t think of a better time to recognize and thank the hard-working associates and programs that define our destination,” said AzHLA President & CEO Debbie Johnson. “We had a record number of nominees this year and the celebration of talent was unprecedented.”

The 2010 Stars of the Industry Winners

Outstanding Employee of the Year

Lars Nelson, Engineer, Westin La Paloma

Outstanding Manager of the Year

Valerie Lee, Public Relations, Fairmont Scottsdale Princess

Manager of the Year, Small Property

Jill Clark, Resort Manager, Sanctuary Resort at Camelback Mountain

Manager of the Year, Medium Property

Greg Hanss, Sales & Marketing, InterContinental Montelucia

Manager of the Year, Large Property

Brian Bruce, Food & Beverage, Tempe Mission Palms

Food & Beverage Employee of the Year, Small Property:

Jason Asher, Sanctuary on Camelback Mountain

Food & Beverage Employee of the Year, Medium Property:

Lazaro German, Hilton Scottsdale Resort & Villas

Food & Beverage Employee of the Year, Large Property:

Suzanne Ferguson, Sheraton Crescent

Guest Service Employee of the Year, Small Property:

Daphne Pattison, Sanctuary on Camelback Mountain

Guest Service Employee of the Year, Medium Property:

Joanne Reiss, The Boulders Resort

Guest Service Employee of the Year, Large Property:

Jaleh Saltaney, Arizona Biltmore

Housekeeping Employee of the Year, Small Property:

Patricia Marino, Hermosa Inn

Housekeeping Employee of the Year, Medium Property:

James Johnson, Enchantment Resort

Housekeeping Employee of the Year, Large Property:

Samuel Valdez, The Legacy Golf Resort

Property Achievement awards in six categories were also announced at the event. These awards highlight programs that showcase the involvement of multiple employees and departments which go above and beyond to build a better community internally and externally.

Community Service, Small Property:

Omni Tucson National Golf Resort & Spa

Community Service, Large Property (Tie)

Wigwam Resort

Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort & Spa

Guest Relations Award

Westward Look Resort

Special Event One Time

Arizona Biltmore's "Hollywood & Wine" program

Special Event Ongoing, Small Property:

The Sanctuary on Camelback "Mixology 101" program

Special Event Ongoing, Large Property:

InterContinental Montelucia "ROQ" Concerts

Good Earthkeeping Award

The Hotel Valley Ho

An additional **Special Recognition Award** was presented to **Westin Kierland Resort & Spa** this year for their efforts to develop an "Associate Relief Fund", which is funded by employees for employees and has awarded more than \$10,000 in grants to date for associates in need.

For more detailed information regarding an individual winner, please contact AzHLA at (602) 604-0729. Images are also available upon request.

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