



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Massachusetts Lodging Association Honors
2009 Stars of the Industry Award Winners**

BOSTON – The Massachusetts lodging industry came together at the Omni Parker House Hotel on Friday, February 26, 2010 to honor exemplary employees and unique programs in the industry, at the 2009 Stars of the Industry Awards Gala. All winners will be submitted to national nomination for the American Hotel & Lodging Association Stars of the Industry Awards, which parallel the Massachusetts Lodging Association awards.

“We had a record number of nominees this year,” said Paul J. Sacco, President & CEO of the Massachusetts Lodging Association. “We’d like to congratulate all winners and nominees on their accomplishments in the past year”. This year's recipients of the Stars of the Industry Awards are:

Employee of the Year (medium property – 101-300 rooms)

Lai Chan, Nine Zero Hotel

Employee of the Year (large property – over 300 rooms)

Deidre Leahy, Hyatt Regency Boston

Manager of the Year (medium property – 101-300 rooms)

Barbara Anastasia, Phillips Family Properties

Manager of the Year (large property – over 300 rooms)

David Markland, The Boston Park Plaza Hotel & Towers

General Manager of the Year (small property – up to 100 rooms)

Juli Lederhaus, Hawthorne Hotel

General Manager of the Year (medium property – 101-300 rooms)

Brian Stiglets, Best Western Inn at Longwood

Industry Partner Employee of the Year

Cathy Doran, Greater Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau

Stevan Porter Emerging Hospitality Leader of the Year (up to 150 rooms)
Michelle Wolforth, Mandarin Oriental, Boston

Stevan Porter Emerging Hospitality Leader of the Year (over 150 rooms)
Elaine Strunk, The Lenox Hotel

Prism Award for Diversity
Hawthorne Hotel

New Technology
Mandarin Oriental, Boston

Community Service
Four Seasons Hotel – Teddy Bear Tea

Employee Relations (up to 150 rooms)
Hotel Commonwealth

Employee Relations (over 150 rooms)
The Boston Park Plaza Hotel & Towers

Guest Relations
Hotel Marlowe - Kimpton Hotels/Pet Friendly Program

Good Earthkeeping
The Charles Hotel

Special Events (Ongoing– over 150 rooms)
The Liberty Hotel

Special Events (One Time – over 150 rooms)
Westin Copley Place – Dinner on the Mayflower

The Massachusetts Lodging Association is a trade association representing and promoting the lodging industry in Massachusetts. MLA has more than 400 active property members, which include hotels, motels, resorts, inns and bed and breakfasts, comprising more than 35,000 rooms. Association membership includes more than 200 companies that supply products and services to the lodging industry. In addition, more than 15 colleges and universities that have hospitality programs are members, as well as a number of corporate members that represent companies which own or manage properties. For more information, please visit MLA's website: www.masslodging.com

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