

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## CFHLA ANNOUNCES THE LEADERSHIP MENTORING PROGRAM, CLASS III

**ORLANDO, FLA** (May 23, 2024) – Today, the Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association (CFHLA) is proud to announce the selection of 18 mentees and 30 mentors, who will participate in CFHLA's Leadership Mentoring Program, Class III. Each of these selected individuals represent our up-and-coming diverse and future leaders of the hospitality industry throughout the Central Florida region (including Orange, Osceola, and Seminole County).

In 2022, the CFHLA Diversity Committee led the charge to create a brand-new and innovative leadership mentoring program, that would be designed to build more diverse leaders within the hospitality industry moving forward. In the inaugural class, CFHLA had 16 mentors help eight rising stars advance in their careers by providing skill-development opportunities to a diverse group of mid-level leaders from various lodging and allied member companies across Central Florida. Then in 2023, the leadership mentoring program included 14 mentees and 30 mentors who completed the Class II.

In just two years, the program has more than doubled in size and each participant will be mentored by at least two industry professionals throughout the year. Furthermore, the participants will focus on developing additional transferable leadership skills including leadership management, public speaking, networking, conflict resolution and emotional intelligence.

Congratulations to the following 18 individuals been selected to participate in Class III of the CFHLA Leadership Mentoring Program:

Virginia Allen Owner, Digital-CFOS

**Kathryn Busche** Catering Sales Manager, AC by Marriott Orlando Downtown **Viktoriia Chorna** Food and Beverage Supervisor, Hyatt House Orlando Airport

Cinthia Cuervo Sen CEO, Sencu Construction

Yoneysi Jackson Director of Outlet, Wyndham Orlando Resort & Conference

Center/Celebration

Jonita Jones Director of Housekeeping, Wyndham Orlando Resort International

Drive

**Veronica Kramer** Hotel Sales Coordinator, Drury Plaza Hotel Orlando Disney

**Springs** 

Cullen Leist Assistant Director of Finance & Accounting, Walt Disney World

Swan and Dolphin Resort

Cady Lewis Event Coordinator, Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport

Michelle Lomelino Director of Business Development, TopTalent Staffing

Jonathan Morales Sales Administrative Assistant, Drury Plaza Hotel Orlando Disney

**Springs** 

Gustavo Morales Laundry Manager, Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport

Analuz Morgan Director of Front Office, Sheraton Suites Orlando Airport

**Tom Nalis** Food and Beverage Supervisor, Wyndham Lake Buena Vista

Disney Springs Resort Area

Elijah Noel Café Manager, The Alfond Inn at Rollins

Mariely Rodriguez Co-Owner and Operations Manager, Umano Resources LLC

Marisabel Rodriguez- Security Manager, Holiday Inn Club Vacations – Orange Lake

**Calderon** Resort

Marelix Santiago Front Office Manager, Holiday Inn Orlando International Airport

Additionally, CFHLA would like to thank the following 30 hospitality professionals who have graciously agreed to help mentor the next generation of hospitality industry professionals.

Minerva Aponte CoCo Key Resort & Water Park Orlando

Erin Arpke Holiday Inn & Suites across from Universal Orlando

Jonathan Barisano Loews Hotels at Universal Orlando

Oliver Boudet Hyatt House Orlando Airport

Keith Bourkney EmployU

Suzi Brady Courtyard Orlando Lake Buena Vista at Vista Centre

**Dan DeBord** The Grove Resort & Spa

**Kelly Endres** Greater Florida Electrical Contractors

Colleen HazenBrush & BrandRichard HessHilton Orlando

Jorg HeyerMarriott Vacations WorldwideMike HinksMarriott Orlando Downtown

Marshall KelbermanWalt Disney World Swan and Dolphin ResortDavid LindsayFPIS, Inc., Distribution & Marketing Solutions

Ally MartinHyatt House Orlando AirportBenjamin McCarneyGrand Bohemian Hotel Orlando

**Bruce McDonald** Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport **Keith McRae** Holiday Inn Club Vacations – Orange Lake Resort

Clint Militzer Wyndham Orlando Resort & Conference Center / Celebration

Crystal Morrell Marriott International

Seilly Pacheco Celebration Hotel

Louanna Perez Grand Bohemian Hotel Orlando

Johana Pinto Clean Tec Services

**Lou Rocco** Global Sourcing International, LLC

**Greg Rothberg** Florida Paints

Georgia Sheffield JW Marriott Orlando, Grande Lakes Steven Smith Loews Hotels at Universal Orlando

Paul Webber Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport

Veronika Williams Homewood Suites by Hilton Orlando Theme Parks

**Duane Winjum** Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando North

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 <a href="https://www.cfhla.org">www.cfhla.org</a>.

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