

Contact: Lianne Hedditch/Emily Potts/Kathleen Moran



Heron Agency  
[lianne@heronagency.com](mailto:lianne@heronagency.com)  
[emily@heronagency.com](mailto:emily@heronagency.com)  
[kathleen@heronagency.com](mailto:kathleen@heronagency.com)  
[www.heronagency.com](http://www.heronagency.com)  
773-969-5200



## THE ILLINOIS HOTEL & LODGING ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES WINNERS FROM 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL REGIONAL STARS OF THE INDUSTRY AWARDS

*Outstanding talent in hospitality and lodging are recognized for their service and performance*

**CHICAGO (November 2017)** – The Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association (IHLA) recently celebrated the outstanding accomplishments, service, and leadership of IHLA member hotel employees in the hospitality and lodging industry at its annual Stars of the Industry Events. Awards were presented in 11 different categories to individuals from the Central Illinois, Chicago and Suburban Chicago regions. IHLA is a not-for-profit trade association that represents the lodging industry in Illinois, and members of this organization who attended these events are responsible for welcoming millions of visitors to Illinois each year.

The Stars of the Industry award ceremonies recognize those who go above and beyond and whose incredible hard work, dedication, attentiveness, and genuine kindness towards both guests and fellow colleagues is an inspiration to their peers. The Stars of the Industry Central Illinois Regional Luncheon was held on October 25 and the Stars of the Industry Chicagoland Regional Luncheon, which featured a welcome speech by Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel, was held on November 1.

The State Stars of the Industry & Membership Holiday Luncheon will be held on December 14 at Embassy Suites Chicago Downtown Mag Mile, where winners from the regional level will compete for State level awards. The IHLA will also be collecting gently used, or new, winter coats, scarves and mittens at the luncheon for those in need as part of their annual *Cold Hands, Warm Hearts* donation program. In Conjunction with the Chicago Police Department Community Relations Division and Domestic Violence Programs, these items will be distributed to those in need.

### **About IHLA**

The Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association (IHLA) is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(6) trade association that represents the lodging industry in Illinois. IHLA members consist of over 500 hotels and their employees throughout the state as well as related industry partners and suppliers. IHLA provides significant benefits to its members by advocating the industry's position on political issues, educating through quality, relevant seminars and webinars, providing promotional exposure and access to current industry news, resources, and contacts through IHLA's website, marketing initiatives, member programs, and networking events, and recognizing hotel employees for their outstanding accomplishments, service, and leadership in the Illinois hospitality and lodging industry.