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**THE ILLINOIS HOTEL & LODGING ASSOCIATION EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION (IHIAEF)
ANNOUNCES ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS**

Assisting hospitality students make a difference in the hospitality industry

CHICAGO (September 2017) -- The Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association (IHIA) is excited to announce the 2017-2018 IHIAEF Scholarship Winners, who are each being awarded a share of \$54,000 in total aid. Each year, IHIAEF awards academic scholarships to deserving Illinois college students pursuing hospitality management degrees throughout the country.

"We are thrilled to announce this year's scholarship winners," said Nabil Moubayed, IHIAEF Chairman, Kimpton Gray Hotel General Manager, and Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants Area Director of Operations Midwest. "Each individual has incredible promise for the future of hospitality and we are excited to recognize their achievements and assist them with college finances."

The 2017-2018 winners are as follows. **Weronika Celer**, DePaul University; **Yves Chambaz**, Kendall College; **Hayley Delaney**, DePaul University; **Megan Feeney**, University of South Carolina; **Malikha Long**, Kendall College; **Deborah Ogunribido**, University of Central Florida; **Jaclyn Parks**, Southern Illinois University; **Gabrielle Serpico**, DePaul University; **Lindsey Wehking**, DePaul University; **Sylvia Wtorkowski**, DePaul University; **Matthew Zyburt**, Purdue University; **Brianna Zyer**, Northern Illinois University; **Jermaine Dill**, Kennedy-King College; **Jasmine Dinkins**, Johnson & Wales University; **Samuel Tucker**, University of Houston; **Kevin Waterstreet**, Northern Illinois University; **Clara Pauker**, Purdue University; **Todd Pinta**, DePaul University; **Elizabeth Redhead**, DePaul University; **Ethan Reynolds**, Culinary Institute of America; **Tess McArthur**, Eastern Illinois University; **Kenzie Mocogni**, DePaul University; **Tess O'Callaghan**, Penn State University; **Ashlyn Gardner**, Northern Illinois University; **Marilyn Gasienica**, Iowa State University; and **Matthew Korman**, Cornell University.

To select winners, the Educational Foundation Scholarship Committee reviews all applications and determines the amount of scholarships to be awarded. Funds are raised through corporate and individual contributions and annual fundraising efforts, and scholarships are available in amounts ranging from \$2,000 up to \$5,000 per academic year. To learn more, please visit IllinoisHotels.org.

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About IHIA

The Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association (IHIA) is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(6) trade association that represents the lodging industry in Illinois. IHIA members consist of over 500 hotels and their employees throughout the state as well as related industry partners and suppliers. IHIA 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 IHIA'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.