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HILTON GARDEN INN® ANNOUNCES BEST OF THE BRAND AWARDS FOR 2005

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif., Feb. 20, 2006 – Hilton Garden Inn®, the award-winning upscale mid-priced brand targeted to today’s growing segment of mid-market travelers, proudly saluted its top hotel performance award winners for 2005, during a presentation held at the brand’s *General Managers Conference* on February 8-10, 2006, in Houston, TX.

“This year’s award recipients exemplify the Hilton Garden Inn spirit and I salute each hotel, their hotel team members, general managers and owners in their dedication and enthusiasm in providing our guests with what they want and need from the moment they walk through the doors,” said Adrian Kurre, senior vice president – brand management, Hilton Garden Inn.

2005 HOTEL OF THE YEAR – HILTON GARDEN INN SPOKANE AIRPORT

Jeannie Berg, general manager of the **Hilton Garden Inn Spokane Airport** – Wash., accepted the *Hotel of the Year* award on behalf of the hotel. The Hilton Garden Inn Spokane Airport was recognized, as a result of their top overall 2005 results on the Balanced Scorecard. The hotel ranked above all other 260+ Hilton Garden Inn hotels, in loyalty, brand standards compliance, cleanliness, physical condition and overall service and had zero brand standard violations. Jeannie credits the hotel’s success to being open to feedback from both guests and her team, as well as modeling the behavior that she expects from her team members. This recognition marks the second time that the Hilton Garden Inn Spokane Airport has received the esteemed accolade in the award’s four year history.

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2005 BARBARA BEJAN GENERAL MANAGER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Bob Moore, general manager of the **Hilton Garden Inn Carlsbad Beach** – Calif., received the *Barbara Bejan General Manager of the Year Award*. He was selected from several nominations by Hilton Garden Inn hotel owners, regional directors and brand support teams across the country. According to Kurre, “With his leadership and passion for the Hilton Garden Inn brand, Bob has brought this hotel to new heights. He also has utilized and demonstrated the use of Ultimate Leadership in all areas at his property as well as consistently being one of the highest revenue performing hotels.”

The following *Hotel Performance Awards* were presented as a result of year-end 2005 scores and results from the Hilton Garden Inn *Balanced Scorecard*, a tool used by the brand to measure and track overall performance of each Hilton Garden Inn hotel in various key performance indicators: Customer Loyalty Tracking Survey, Quality Assurance, and Brand Management and Product Standards.

PRIDE MERIT AWARD

The Pride Merit Award represents the brand’s second and third position on the Balanced Scorecard. Achievements for recognition must be equal to or greater than the brand system average in all measured categories in the Brand Scorecard. Our second place *Pride Merit Award* for overall 2005 results was given to Brian Barnes, general manager of the **Hilton Garden Inn Effingham**, – Ill. The third place *Pride Merit Award* was presented to the **Hilton Garden Inn Fairfax** – Va., represented by Steve Steinberg, hotel general manager.

RAMP-UP AWARD

The **Hilton Garden Inn Knoxville West/Cedar Bluff** – Tenn., was awarded the brand’s *Ramp-Up Award* for 2005. The hotel achieved 100% market penetration in Occupancy, ADR and REVPAR the quickest and maintained it to date as well as exceeded the brand average in all categories. Hotel general manager, Candace Parkerson accepted the award on behalf of the hotel.

MOST IMPROVED HOTEL AWARD

The **Hilton Garden Inn Carlsbad Beach** – Calif., received the *Most Improved Hotel Award* having shown the greatest improvement in their Balanced Scorecard over a 12-month period from 2004 to 2005.

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MOST IMPROVED LOYALTY AWARD

The *Most Improved Loyalty Award* was presented to hotel general manager, Keith Buck, and the **Hilton Garden Inn Phoenix/Midtown** – Ariz., for an increase in Loyalty Scores over the year – from 174th place in 2004.

HILTON HHONORS® LOYALTY AWARD

The *Hilton HHonors® Loyalty Award* was presented to general manager, Charles Manchester, and the **Hilton Garden Inn Auburn/Riverwatch** – ME, with Hilton HHonors® reservation contribution above the brand average and their Satisfaction and Loyalty Tracking scores for those same HHonors members also far exceeding brand averages.

GUEST LOYALTY AWARD

The **Hilton Garden Inn Effingham** – Ill., was recognized with the Guest Loyalty Award with loyalty scores well above 90% and maintaining the highest year-to-date scores for a 12-month period - systemwide - on the brand's guest survey system, the Customer Loyalty Tracking Survey.

BEST COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT AWARD

The **Hilton Garden Inn Cleveland/Twinsburg** – Ohio, was presented with the brand's Best Community Service Project for their special "Grow A School Garden" endeavor. The hotel and its team members have had a long standing relationship with the City of Twinsburg and through this ongoing relationship have helped educate children about gardening and the importance of healthy eating. This year's Best Community Service Project Award goes to general manager, Roger Greene and the team at the Hilton Garden Inn Cleveland/Twinsburg in Ohio!

PROBLEM RESOLUTION AWARD

The **Hilton Garden Inn Oklahoma City Airport** – Okla., was presented with the Problem Resolution Award for the hotel team members' commitment to identifying and resolving guests' problems in 2005. The accolade was presented to Sheree Martinez, hotel general manager.

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PROBLEM AVOIDANCE AWARD

The **Hilton Garden Inn Mobile East Bay/Daphne – Ala.**, represented by hotel general manager, Lee Gayle, was recognized with the Problem Avoidance Award. The general manager and team members at the hotel have taken the initiative to be proactive in their CRM (Customer Really Matter) initiatives and overall service that their percentage in problem avoidance with guests is well below that brand average.

About the Conference

“Faster. Higher. Stronger.” was the theme of the 2006 Hilton Garden Inn brand conference. More than 500 attendees participated in the Houston event.

About Hilton Garden Inn

Hilton Garden Inn is the award-winning, mid-priced brand offering complimentary high-speed Internet access in all hotel guestrooms and secure remote printing to the hotel’s 24-hour business center. The Hilton Garden Inn brand is part of Hilton Hotels Corporation; recognized internationally as a preeminent hospitality company. More than 350 Hilton Garden Inn hotel properties are currently open or under development in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

For more information on Hilton Garden Inn hotels in the U.S., Canada and Mexico or to make reservations and discover your next getaway ideas, visit www.StayHGI.com or call 1-877-STAY-HGI.

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