

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Gateway Hospitality Group, Karyn Kreps - Frisina
kkreps@aol.com
330.995.0764

HILTON GARDEN INN DALLAS/ALLEN AWARD

The Hilton Garden Inn Dallas/Allen won a prestigious award earlier this month from an organization that represents more than 32,000 hotel rooms in the greater Dallas area.

HGI Dallas/Allen was the first select service hotel to be recognized as Select Hotel of the Year by the Hotel Association of Greater Dallas at the association's first annual Hospo Award gala. The ceremony was held Nov. 10 at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas.

"These awards are given out by our peers in the hospitality industry," said Stephen Christensen, general manager of the HGI Dallas/Allen. "We have been the top performer for our brand in the Dallas area in guest scores."

HGI Dallas/Allen was selected as Hotel of the Year from among hundreds of nominees, said Brooke Dieterlen, executive director of the Hotel Association of Greater Dallas.

Other members nominated hotels for the award via the association's Web site. The association considered the hotel's occupancy rates, goals reached, new programs and techniques when selecting the winner.

"HGI Dallas/Allen is just cutting-edge on every aspect," Dieterlen said. "The nominations were all so outstanding. But HGI Dallas/Allen, among other things, had just some unprecedented ideas. They implemented an internship program for local high school students, those students went into HGI Allen and were performing everyday tasks and jobs. One of the biggest hurdles in the hospitality industry is finding great front-line employees... It's just unheard of that a select service hotel could do that, to fill such a great industry need."

James Montgomery, Regional Director of Operations for Gateway Hospitality Group, said he was proud of the Dallas/Allen Hilton Garden Inn.

"The award is a reflection of the superior quality that the hotel team has delivered, leading the Hilton Garden Inn brand's South Central Region in 'Brand Loyalty' year-to-date through the third quarter," Montgomery said. "Hotel loyalty is the most important quality in the eyes of Hilton Hotel's Corporation as this reflects the level of satisfaction by the guests and will lead them to return time and time again."

-more-

HILTON GARDEN INN DALLAS/ALLEN AWARD 2-2-2-2

Montgomery said the hotel is a leader in the local community. It is a supporter of the Allen Community Outreach, a non-profit organization that helps families during emergencies. The hotel's employees have developed and overseen a Hospitality Internship Program in conjunction with the Allen High School and the Career and Technology Education Department, helping to give local students hospitality experience.

The Hotel Association of Greater Dallas was founded in 1926 by four downtown-Dallas hotel managers who met each month to discuss problems unique to the hospitality industry. In 1989, the association began promoting its members and their hotels to vendors and customers. Its members include general managers of hotels, executives of hotel corporations and vendors to the hospitality industry. Montgomery and Christensen sit on the association's board. The association puts on educational seminars, provides information about job and internship opportunities at its member hotels and lobbies local elected officials on behalf of the hospitality industry.

The association started the Hospy Awards, Dieterlen said, to honor the best of the best hotels in the Dallas area.

Christensen said he is honored that HGI Dallas/Allen was the first to win.

"We are excited about winning the Select Service Hotel of the Year Award," he said. "Our number one desire is to treat our guests like family."

Gateway Hospitality Group, the hospitality management company for Hilton Garden Inn Dallas/ Allen also manages Hilton Garden Inn Perrysburg, Toledo; Hilton Garden Inn South Bend, Indiana; Hilton Garden Inn Dallas/Duncanville, Dallas/Lewisville, Hampton Inn and Suites Allen and Hilton Bella Harbor at Lake Ray Hubbard Dallas/Rockwall, TX; Hilton Garden Inn Cleveland Downtown and Hilton Garden Inn Cleveland/Twinsburg, Ohio; Hilton Garden Inn Missoula, and Hilton Garden Inn Billings, and Hilton Garden Inn Kalispell, Montana; Hilton Garden Inn Perrysburg, Toledo; Hilton Garden Inn South Bend, Indiana Double Tree Airport Hotel and the Hilton Garden Inn Pittsburgh/Southpointe, Pittsburgh.