TOURISM CELEBRATES ITS ‘EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS’ AND HOSTS COLLECTION DRIVE FOR HOMELESS STUDENTS

Who: The Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association (CFHLA) is hosting a luncheon recognizing all of CFHLA’s 2011-2012 Educational Programs and conducting the first of two CFHLA Cares Collection Drives benefiting Homeless Students in Central Florida.

What: This CFHLA luncheon program will celebrate and present over $68,000 of scholarships and grants to local hospitality students and schools and will feature a presentation from incoming Orange County Superintendent Dr. Barbara Jenkins.

Following this presentation, CFHLA will award 31 hospitality scholarships and 5 grants to Central Florida hospitality schools, as well as recognize the CFHLA Teacher Academy Program, the CFHLA Adopt-a-School Program and the CFHLA Cares Program.

The following individuals are recipients of the CFHLA Foundation 2012 Scholarships and Grants:

**Scholarships**

**High School**

Jean Castillo — $1,000 per year, for 4 Years
Christine Saunders - $1,000 per year, for 4 Years

**College**

Leanza Altenderfer – University of Central Florida Rosen College - $1,000
Joseph Balash – Florida Technical College - $1,000
Jeffrey Bautista – Florida Technical College - $1,000
Alex Begnoche – Webber International University - $1,000
Justin Butler-Galen – Florida Technical College - $1,000
Kara Cederquist - University of Central Florida Rosen College - $1,000
Mikyba Cooper - University of Central Florida Rosen College - $1,000
Dannielle Givens - University of Central Florida Rosen College - $1,000
Herna Gonzalez - University of Central Florida Rosen College - $1,000
Courtney Hitzel - University of Central Florida Rosen College - $2,000 per year, for 2 Years
Silvia Hurtarte – Florida Technical College - $1,000
Jamie Jaworski - University of Central Florida Rosen College - $1,000
Daneen Johnson - University of Central Florida Rosen College - $1,000
Matthew Joiner - University of Central Florida Rosen College - $1,000
Jeffrey Maggiacomo - University of Central Florida Rosen College - $1,000
Wildarie Nogueras – Florida Technical College - $1,000
Also at this luncheon, State Senator for District 24, Thad Altman and State Representative for District 32, Steve Crisafulli will receive the ‘2011 CFHLA Public Servant of the Year Award.’ The distinguished individuals are receiving this honor for their dedicated service to the hospitality industry.

In conjunction with the luncheon, the CFHLA Cares program will be collecting needed items for over 4,500 homeless students in Orange and Osceola Counties. Needed items include soap, shampoo, conditioner, brushes, combs, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shaving cream, deodorant and other personal hygiene products.

Two School Buses - one from Orange County and one from Osceola County - will be present to accept donations.

Since the CFHLA Cares program began in 2007, ten individual collection drives have occurred.

When: Thursday, May 3, 2012
12 Noon - 1:30pm (Luncheon)
10:00am - 2:00pm (CFHLA Cares Collection Drive)

Where: Renaissance Orlando Hotel at SeaWorld
6677 Sea Harbor Drive
Orlando, FL 32821

Contact: Erin Hellkamp, CFHLA
Office (407) 313-5035
Cell (407) 432-3101

To find out more about how the hospitality industry is advancing your community, please visit our website: www.cfhla.org.

# # #

The Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association is the world’s largest regional hotel association, representing approximately 80% of the hotels in Orange, Osceola and Seminole Counties.