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**News Release**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**THE GREATER TORONTO HOTEL ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES  
THE 2015 SPIRIT AWARDS WINNERS**

TORONTO – (April 24, 2015) Four Hundred and seventy members of the Greater Toronto Hotel Association (GTHA) gathered on Friday, April 24th, 2015 to honour exceptional Ambassadors in the region's hotel industry. The fourth Annual Spirit Awards Luncheon presented by the Greater Toronto Hotel Association recognized 185 nominees and 18 award winners for their outstanding contributions in our industry.

"It is with great pride that the GTHA celebrates the service, professionalism and innovation of these outstanding Ambassadors in the hotel community" said GTHA President & CEO Terry Mundell. "Their contributions to the visitor experience leave a lasting impression on the over 14 million overnight visitors to the Greater Toronto Area. Our congratulations go out to each nominee and award winner for their exceptional service to guests visiting GTHA member hotels".

The winners of the Greater Toronto Hotel Association's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Spirit Awards are:

*Lifetime Achievement Award*

**Kathy Bartholomew**, The Westin Harbour Castle

*Accounting Ambassador of the Year*

**Angela De Las Alas**, The Ritz- Carlton Toronto

*Administration Ambassador of the Year*

**Giovanna Vallejo**, Hilton Toronto

*Banquet Ambassador of the Year*

**Peter Hess**, Chelsea Hotel Toronto

*Bell Person Ambassador of the Year*

**Vernon Bell**, The Westin Harbour Castle

*Concierge of the Year*

**Vanessa Kerwin-Thuan**, The Omni King Edward Hotel

*Culinary Ambassador of the Year*

**Audrey Thomas**, InterContinental Toronto Centre

*Engineering Ambassador of the Year*

**Marlow Delamasa**, Park Hyatt Toronto

*Food and Beverage Outlets Ambassador of the Year*  
**Kavita Gajaria**, The Fairmont Royal York

*Guest Services Ambassador of the Year*  
**Aneesa Mohammed**, Sheraton Toronto Airport Hotel & Conference Centre

*Housekeeping Room Attendant Ambassador of the Year*  
**Doris Osbourne**, Holiday Inn Toronto Yorkdale

*Housekeeping Support Services Ambassador of the Year*  
**Marisa Ortal**, Trump International Hotel and Tower Toronto

*Laundry Ambassador of the Year*  
**Concordia Lumor**, Hilton Garden Inn Toronto Airport West/ Mississauga

*Reservations Ambassador of the Year*  
**Priti Dubey**, Novotel North York

*Security Ambassador of the Year*  
**Ali Elkaderi**, One King West Hotel & Residence

*Steward of the Year*  
**Augustina Oscar**, Sheraton Centre Toronto

*Switchboard Operator of the Year*  
**Anne Chan- Chong**, Hilton Mississauga/ Meadowvale

*Valet Driver/ Door Person/ Shuttle Driver Ambassador of the Year*  
**Warren Cole**, Renaissance Toronto Hotel Downtown

### **About the Greater Toronto Hotel Association (GTHA)**

Founded in 1925, this year marks the Greater Toronto Hotel Association's 90th Anniversary serving the hotel industry of the Greater Toronto Area.

A major stakeholder in the tourism industry, the GTHA is the voice of the Greater Toronto Area's hotel industry, representing 170 hotels, with approximately 36,000 guest rooms and 32,000 employees. The GTHA is dedicated to serving the interests of its members on issues of public policy and advocates to raise the profile and prosperity of our members as a vital component of the hospitality industry.

For more information please visit [www.gtha.com](http://www.gtha.com)

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