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11th Annual Buffalo Niagara Ambassador Awards

Buffalo State College Hospitality and Tourism Department

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Buffalo State College Hospitality and Tourism Department, "11th Annual Buffalo Niagara Ambassador Awards" (2005). *Special Events*. 1.

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The Ambassador Award

The Buffalo Niagara Hospitality Ambassador Award recognizes a hospitality professional for his or her achievements and contributions to the field in the Buffalo Niagara region.

Previously Honored Ambassadors

2004

Paul A. Tokasz, New York State Assemblyman
Burt Notarius, Owner, Premier Group

2003

Mark Halter, President, Kissing Bridge Corporation
David Hart, President & CEO, Hart Hotels Inc.
David Lacki, Director of Tourism, Buffalo Niagara Convention and Visitors Bureau

2002

Dennis DiPaolo, Owner & Operator, Ilio DiPaolo's Restaurant
Mel Florczak, Past Director, Buffalo Convention Center
Raul Sartini, Retired Club Manager, Brookfield Country Club

2001

Daniel R. Franklin, General Manager, The Buffalo Club
Irwin Pastor, President, Pepsi-Cola Buffalo Bottling Corp
Stan Rydelek, President, Niagara Falls Convention & Visitors Bureau

2000

Marguerite Hambleton, President & CEO, AAA of Western and Central New York
Jeremy M. Jacobs, Jr., Executive Vice President, Delaware North Company
Janet Overdorf, Director, Southtowns Nutritional Services, Mercy/OLV Hospital

1999

Richard S. Geiger, President & CEO, Buffalo Convention & Visitors Bureau
Robert E. Rich, Jr., President, Rich Products Corporation
Donald P. Spasiano, Chairman, Department of Food Service Administration and Restaurant Management, Erie Community College

1998

Frank Gennuso, Vice President, Equipment and Design, Buffalo Hotel Supply
Jean McDonnell Covelli, The Travel Team, Inc
Linda Mocny, Food Service Director, Mount St. Mary's

1997

Robert Blanchard, Chairman, Hospitality Department, Johnson & Wales University
Ilio DiPaolo Family, Ilio DiPaolo Restaurant and Ringside Lounge
Russell Salvatore, Owner, Salvatore's Italian Gardens

1996

Mark La Martina, President, US Food Service
Rudi Rainer, General Manager, Radisson Hotels and Suites
Mark Wright, Chief Executive Chef, Transit Valley Country Club

1995

James Bedard, President, Buffalo Hotel Supply Company, Inc
Louis Billitier, Owner, Chef's Restaurant
James Geiger, President, Four Seasons/Country Kitchens

Schedule of Events

Welcome Remarks

Dr. Kevin Mulcahy, Chairperson
Hospitality and Tourism Department

"Cultural Bridges" Keynote Address

David Rosenwasser
President and CEO, Niagara Tourism
and Convention Corporation

Student Awards

Hospitality and Tourism Department Faculty

2005 Hospitality Ambassador Award

The Honorable Senator Mary Lou Rath
District 61

New York State Senate
Buffalo State College Distinguished Alumnus

Closing Remarks

Shetice Newell and Shayna Raichilson-Zadok
General Managers of Ambassador Awards Event
Hospitality and Tourism Students

Reception and Dinner

Campus House
Cash Bar, Cordials & Cocktails
Gourmet Station Dinner

Buffalo State College

Hospitality and Tourism Graduates

2005

Natalie Andrees*
 Jamie Bellamore*
 Rachel Boyce
 Safiya Brewley*
 Jennifer Bittenger
 Cassie Costanzo*
 Daniel DiPirro
 Kelly Dolan
 Paul Everett
 Meggan Fox
 Moniqe Granados
 Kerrisa Hajt
 Shaundel Hall
 Melissa Holland
 Adam Horvath
 Cheryl Keyes
 Theresa Keyes
 Adam LaBruna
 Michelle Longley

Amanda Minotti*
 Anna Mulderig*
 Melissa Mule*
 Erin Naughton
 Shetice Newell*
 Lisa O'Connell
 Mariko Osawa*
 Eric Paner*
 Neil Pecka*
 Brian Poturalski*
 Dewanda Sabbs
 Fatuma Salongo
 John Sawyer*
 Courtney Smith
 Lauren Solak
 Katie Whalen
 Kimberly Whitlam*
 Eric Zitzka

* Senior managers involved in planning the Ambassador Awards event

The Ambassador Awards Dinner

Student Managers

Rachel Andolina
 Parry Barker
 Julie Bidell
 Venessa Caldarella
 Krista Constantino
 David Cultrara
 Marysa Flynn
 Lindsay Gleason
 Brendan Gormley
 Roni Hellerer
 Joseph Hermann
 Keith Kear

Josh Ketry
 Michelle Kline
 Zachary Korzelius
 Justin Lamprecht
 Marcia Lino
 Nicholas Markel
 Marcus Moses
 Nathan Muka
 Caitlin Orrange
 Rachel Pajak
 Brian Pimm

Shayna Raichilson -
 Zadok
 Allison Riffel
 Jennifer Ristine
 Shannon Ruth
 Andrea Shultz
 John Smigiel
 Kathryn Turner
 Franco Vitale
 Ellen Wise
 Caroline Woodworth
 Rebecca Woodworth