



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mavis Early, Greater New Orleans Hotel Lodging Association
gnohla@gnohla.com
504-525-2264

NEW ORLEANS, LA. (May 7, 2014) The Greater New Orleans Hotel & Lodging Association Hospitality Education Foundation Awards Two **\$8,000** Scholarships to Orleans Parish High School Seniors.

Cordell Williams of Sophie B. Wright Charter School has maintained honor roll status throughout all four years of high school. His curriculum included Advanced Placement courses in English, Physics and Chemistry. Mr. Williams has been active in student government for three years while maintaining part-time positions as a youth manager for Center Plate at the Mercedes Benz Superdome as well as a cashier position with Winn-Dixie Supermarket.

Markesha Favis of Warren Easton Charter High School has been on the cheerleading team for four years and most recently served as co-captain. In 2013, Markesha was recognized as Miss Hospitality at Warren Easton's homecoming. Her commitment to the hospitality industry was solidified through dual enrollment with Delgado Community College where she completed her American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA) Educational Institute certification in Lodging Management and Hospitality 101.

Both Mr. Williams and Ms. Favis plan to attend the UNO Lester E. Kabacoff School of Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Administration in the Fall.

The Greater New Orleans Hotel & Lodging Association Hospitality Education Foundation scholarship is granted in recognition of excellence and commitment to a future in the hotel and lodging industry. The mission of the Foundation is to create awareness of the Hospitality Career Path available to high school students in our community, and to provide and promote continuing education needs of the industry. The scholarship awards qualified high school seniors with a scholarship of \$1,000 per semester to either the four-year bachelor's degree program at the University of New Orleans Lester E. Kabacoff School of Hotel, Restaurant & Tourism, or Delgado Community College's two-year Hospitality Management Program.

Additional support from the hotel and lodging industry by way of mentoring by industry professionals, assistance in securing internships and employment, invitations to industry educational seminars, meetings and events, and general support in academics and opportunities are available.

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About the Greater New Orleans Hotel & Lodging Association

The Greater New Orleans Hotel and Lodging Association is a membership-based, not-for-profit, private association representing the hotel and lodging industry in the Greater New Orleans area. GNOHLA is devoted to representing the rights and interests of the New Orleans hospitality industry through education, political action, communication, and marketing; for providing member benefits that improve the financial position and public awareness of its members; and for supporting strategic alliances to promote the value of New Orleans tourism and travel.

About the Greater New Orleans Hotel & Lodging Association Hospitality Education Foundation

The Greater New Orleans Hotel & Lodging Association Hospitality Education Foundation is a non-profit corporation formed to create awareness of the hospitality career path available to high school students in our community, to provide educational and financial support to the secondary and post-secondary institutions offering hospitality programs, and to sponsor continuing education programs for association members.