

## **Greater New Orleans Hotel & Lodging Association Hospitality Education Foundation celebrates 25 years of fundraising through a \$25,000 donation to UNO HRT Foundation to support students in the hospitality career path**

**NEW ORLEANS – (11.24.15)** - The UNO HRT Foundation at the University of New Orleans accepted a \$25,000 donation on Tuesday, November 24, 2015 from the Greater New Orleans Hotel & Lodging Association Hospitality Education Foundation.

Tod Chambers, president of the Greater New Orleans Hotel & Lodging Association Hospitality Education Foundation (GNOHLA HEF), along with the Association's executive director, Mavis Early, presented Dr. John Williams, dean UNO College of Business, and Dr. Kim Williams with the donation on Tuesday morning at the Foundation's 25th annual Tourism Tee-Off Golf Tournament. The GNOHLA Hospitality Education Foundation is funded primarily by the Tourism Tee-Off golf tournament and associated on-line auction, and related events. GNOHLA Hospitality Education Foundation is a 501(c) (3) educational non-profit association.



Steve Florence, Starr Textile and GNOHLA Board member; Alan Guilbeau, Executive VP of Business Development PJ's Coffee (Sponsor); Mavis Early, Executive Director GNOHLA; Dr. John Williams, Dean UNO College of Business; Dr. Kim Williams, Interim Director of the UNO Lester E. Kabacoff School of Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Administration; Larry Daniels VP of HRI Lodging and Chairman of GNOHLA TTO Committee/Board Member; David Teich GM Windsor Court and Vice-President/President Elect GNOHLA; Robert Bray GM Marriott New Orleans and President of GNOHLA; Tod Chambers GM Roosevelt New Orleans and President of GNOHLA Hospitality Education Foundation; Ted Selogie GM JW Marriott and GNOHLA Board Member; John Romano GM InterContinental and GNOHLA Board Member; Edward Sakakeeny, President Carey New Orleans/Signature Livery, Inc. (Sponsor); Jim Szeszycki, President Concord Shores and GNOHLA Board member; Jim Cook, GM Sheraton New Orleans and Secretary/Treasurer GNOHLA; Jeff Rogers Pelican New Orleans (sponsor); Aaron Dirks, Joieful (Presenting Sponsor); Trey Weaver Crystal Clear Imaging (Five Diamond Sponsor). Not pictured Ray Seamon Senior Vice President at First NBC Bank First NBC (Presenting Sponsor).

Among other activities, GNOHLA HEF awards college scholarships to high school students interested in a career path in the hospitality industry and supports the local student chapter of the American Hotel & Lodging Association at the University of New Orleans. The GNOHLA Hospitality Education Foundation also hosts career fairs, a panel presentation to incoming high school students discussing careers in the hotel and lodging industry, works with high schools to establish hospitality academies, provides hotel industry professionals to speak in classrooms, and guides the ongoing training of industry employees by providing educational programs and other learning opportunities.

Today's donation brings GNOHLA HEF total contribution to the University of New Orleans to \$85,000 to date.

“We are grateful for the generosity of the Greater New Orleans Hotel & Lodging Association and GNOHLA Hospitality Education Foundation,” said Kim Williams, associate professor and interim director of the UNO Lester E. Kabacoff School of Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Administration. “The donation helps support our goal of educating future industry leaders. The money will enhance our efforts to increase program awareness and enrollment.”

For more information on how you or your company can support the Greater New Orleans Hospitality Education Foundation, please call the association office at 504-525-2264 or visit [www.gnohla.com](http://www.gnohla.com)

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### **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.

### **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.