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July 14, 2009

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Top Chicago Hospitality School **Lexington College**

**Top 2009 IHLA Awards to Lexington Students
Arienza and Marry earn the top two name scholarships**

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS— The Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association Education Foundation's (IHLAEF) Selection Committee has announced their 2009 scholarship awardees. Four IHLA awards, 21% of the total awardees, were granted to Lexington College students.

The two most prestigious named awards were given to Itezelle Arienza '10, and Caroline Marry '10. Itezelle Arienza is the recipient of "The 2009 HOSTMARK HOSPITALITY GROUP, ROBERT J. CATALDO SCHOLARSHIP for the 2009-2010 academic year – the highest award designated for an IHLA hotel member employee in the honor of a great hospitality leader." Caroline Marry is the recipient of "The 2009 J. PATRICK LEAHY CONNOISSEUR SCHOLARSHIP for the 2009-2010 academic year – in honor of a great hospitality leader." Arienza and Marry are both pursuing their Bachelors degrees in Hospitality Management with a concentration in Hotel/Restaurant Management.

Also awarded, Katie Holtschult '10 and Jennifer Yerkes '09, are recipients of scholarships for the 2009-2010 academic year. Holtschult is pursuing her Bachelors degree in Hospitality Management with a concentration in Hotel/Restaurant Management. Yerkes is pursuing her Bachelors degree in Hospitality Management with a concentration in Event Planning.

The (IHLAEF) is the not-for-profit educational arm of the Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association (IHLA). Incorporated in 1992, the Foundation has been a primary source of scholarship assistance for college students pursuing degrees in hospitality management in Illinois. IHLAEF is dedicated to mentoring future hotel employees and providing continuing education for current hospitality industry employees. Their programs have become a positive influence in assuring that there are educated and successful hospitality employees in the Illinois workforce.

"As one of the top hospitality schools in Chicago, we know how important intelligent, young talent is. It is an honor to have the two largest IHLA scholarships going to Lexington students and we recognize each of them for their outstanding achievements," says Mary Hunt, Academic Dean of Lexington College. "We believe they will continue to make a significant contribution to their profession in the hospitality industry."

As recipients of the prestigious awards, the IHLA will salute the award recipients along with Stars of the Industry state finalists at the IHLA's 21st Annual Luncheon Meeting in December, 2009 at the Fairmont Hotel Chicago.

Why Lexington?

Lexington College, the world's premier all-women's hospitality management degree-granting college, educates students to work in all aspects of hospitality management. Students are attracted by a rigorous four-year curriculum, strong industry partnerships, paid internships and a 100% job placement rate for graduates seeking employment within three months of graduation.

For more information about Lexington College, please contact Megan Goggin at 312.226.6294 x228 or pr@lexingtoncollege.edu.

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