



CALL for NOMINATIONS



NOMINATIONS DUE FEBRUARY 20, 2026



*Pay Tribute to Your Associates.
and recognize them for exceptional
service & dedication!*

STARS OF THE LODGING INDUSTRY



PAY TRIBUTE TO YOUR STAR PERFORMERS

The Georgia Hotel & Lodging Association's Stars of the Lodging Industry program has been a cherished tradition for decades, shining a spotlight on the extraordinary men and women who make our industry truly exceptional. Each year, GHLA brings together industry professionals from across the state to honor those associates who embody outstanding service and hospitality. This is **YOUR** opportunity to honor the shining stars who elevate your guests' experiences, your property, and your community.

GHLA member properties are eligible to submit one nomination in EACH of our **9 Employee Categories**. Every associate you nominate will be recognized amongst their peers in this statewide celebration. This program is perfect for properties of all sizes - from 10 rooms to 1,600 rooms!

Being nominated for the GHLA Stars of the Lodging program is a distinguished honor. **All nominees will be celebrated at the unforgettable Stars of the Lodging Industry Celebration in April 2026 (TBA)**. Last year, 1,000+ attended this luncheon gala, regarded as one of the most prestigious industry recognition programs in the nation. Don't miss the chance to reward your valued team members for their dedication and hard work!

NOMINATION DEADLINE
FEBRUARY 20, 2026 @ 5 p.m.

All honorees must be submitted online using the nomination form available at this URL:
<https://forms.gle/uRiC6HJU7TsSa6s5>

GHLA LODGING EMPLOYEE CATEGORIES

[Individual Employees Only]

COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAMPIONS [Sponsored by Gas South]

Honorees may work in any area of your hotel. This individual demonstrates a passion for serving others and has represented your hotel while making a meaningful impact through their work in charitable projects and community service.

MANAGEMENT CHAMPIONS

Honorees demonstrate exceptional performance and supervisory skills. Those eligible for nomination include any management level employee who has responsibility for a division, department or function (e.g., food and beverage managers/directors, front desk managers, comptroller, human resources managers/directors, executive housekeepers, etc.).

EMERGING LEADER CHAMPIONS [Sponsored by IHG Hotels & Resorts]

Honorees are individuals under the age of 30 who have demonstrated superior professional dedication, leadership, and a fresh perspective to carrying out their job.

SALES & MARKETING CHAMPIONS

Honorees demonstrate excellence and superior professionalism in driving business to the organization and servicing clients' needs. This includes: sales managers, revenue managers, marketing/PR, catering/conference services, weddings, etc.

ADMINISTRATIVE / SUPPORT DEPARTMENT CHAMPIONS

Honorees work in a non-management support role or a clerical/admin capacity in the following areas including: administrative assistants (any department), Human Resources, Engineering/Maintenance/Facilities, Security, Rooms, Purchasing, Receptionists, Accounting, AV, Food & Beverage (i.e., conference coordinator), MIS, Purchasing (i.e., receiving, storeroom/beverage clerks), Store Room/Warehousing, etc.

CULINARY CHAMPIONS [Sponsored by Ecolab]

Honorees are directly involved in the preparation of food. This includes: chefs, sous chefs, line cooks, prep cooks, pastry chefs, garde mangers, bouchers, etc.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE CHAMPIONS

Honorees must support the Food and Beverage function of a property (but do not prepare food). This includes: hostpersons, cashiers, order takers, food checkers, servers, buspersons, bar porters/tenders, bar backs, baristas, dishwashers, stewards, room service, etc.

ROOMKEEPER CHAMPIONS

Honorees work in the housekeeping or laundry departments. This includes: room attendants, floor supervisors, housepersons, night cleaners, shampoo persons, laundry persons, linen room attendants, chute attendants, sewing attendants, etc.

GUEST SERVICES CHAMPIONS

Honorees are guest-facing (excluding F&B) and provide guest services in areas such as: front desk, guest service agent, night auditor, concierge, reservations, bell stand, doorman, valet, courtesy van, communications, health club / spa facilities, recreation / golf, business center, mail and information, etc.

NOMINATION RULES & GUIDELINES



WELL-DESERVED RECOGNITION!

All honorees will be recognized at GHLA's Stars of the Lodging Industry Celebration in April 2026 (TBA).

WHEN IS THE DEADLINE?

February 20, 2026 @ 5 p.m.

ENTRY GUIDELINES

- All honorees must be from GHLA member properties in good standing.
- There is no charge to enter.
- Please read the category descriptions carefully.
- You may submit ONE honoree per category. Most members submit an honoree into every category.



STEPS TO PREPARE A NOMINATION

- Enlist the help of your executive leaders, management team, and key managers in the areas of Human Resources or Sales/Marketing to determine who your property would like to honor.
- Complete the online entry form using the URL listed at the bottom of this page.
- To submit an honoree, simply enter their first and last name in the appropriate category online. GHLA will take it from there to pay tribute them in our statewide celebration.
- Please ensure that the names of your honorees are spelled correctly, as this is how they will appear in print.

HOW DO I SUBMIT MY HONOREES?

Honorees must be submitted via our online form at the URL listed at the bottom of this page.

QUESTIONS OR ASSISTANCE?

Contact Denise Holland at GHLA at (404) 667-4077 or d.holland@ghla.net.

NOMINATION DEADLINE

- **FEBRUARY 20, 2026** •

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