



May 2, 2025

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## Kicking off the 2025 Human Resources Seminar Series

This week, CFHLA launched our **2025 Human Resources Seminar Series** at the **UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management**. The first seminar featured an engaging presentation by **Tasos Paidiris** of **Jackson Lewis**, who provided crucial HR related updates on regulation changes for employers.

Thank you again to Tasos for sharing his expertise, and to all of the attendees for making this first seminar a success. We would also like to extend a special thanks to our partners at UCF Rosen for hosting this important seminar, and to all this year's HR Seminar Series Sponsors. The next seminar in this series will take place on **August 5th** in conjunction with the [2025 CFHLA Hospitality Tradeshow](#).

For more information and to register, please [CLICK HERE](#).



Thank you again to each of our 2025 Human Resources Seminar Series sponsors, including:

**Corporate Sponsor:**

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**Corporate Partners:**



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## Vacation Ownership Properties Host OCPS High School Site Visits

This week, students from **seven (7) Orange County Public High Schools** had the opportunity to participate in immersive site visits to **seven (7) different CFHLA Vacation Ownership properties**. During these hands-on experiences, students toured resorts, explored a variety of departments, and engaged with industry professionals who shared insights on careers in hospitality. These field trips offer students a firsthand look at the diverse number of career paths available at vacation ownership properties.

Thank you to our CFHLA Members, **Cypress Pointe Hilton Vacation Club**, **Hilton Grand Vacations at SeaWorld**, **Hilton Grand Vacations Aqua Sol Orlando West**, **Hilton Grand Vacation Club Grand Beach Orlando**, **Holiday Inn Club Vacations - Orange Lake Resort**, **Las Palmeras by Hilton Grand Vacations**, and **Marriott's Harbour Lake Resort** for hosting these informative and important student visits.

Also, thank you to the following schools who participated including **Cypress Creek High School**, **Dr. Phillips High School**, **Freedom High School**, **Orange Technical College – South**, **Wekiva High School**, **West Orange High School** and **Winter Park High School**.

If you are interested in hosting a future school site visit, please contact Melanie Anesh at [melanie.anesh@cfhla.org](mailto:melanie.anesh@cfhla.org).





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## Partners In Action - CoCo Key Hotel & Water Resort Sponsors Local Student

Recently, **CoCo Key Hotel and Water Resort** generously sponsored a graduating senior, by covering all of the costs for the student to attend both

Prom and Grad Bash. By sponsoring this student, the property ensured that the student could fully participate in these unforgettable milestones, despite financial challenges. Their kindness is another shining example of the hospitality industry's continued commitment to the betterment of our community and youth.



Thank you to the **CoCo Key team** for going above and beyond to make a lasting impact during such a special time in a student's life.

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<p>GENERATE ADDITIONAL REVENUE FROM</p> <p><b>PHONE CHARGING</b></p> <p>AMENITY FOR GUESTS</p>	<p>GUESTS <b>BUY OR RENT</b> A <b>100% CHARGED</b> BATTERY PACK FROM <b>GRAB-&amp;-GO MARKETS, HOTEL &amp; RESORT LOBBIES, RETAIL.</b></p> 
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**Celebrating the Grand Opening of Universal Helios  
Grand Hotel, a Loews Hotel**

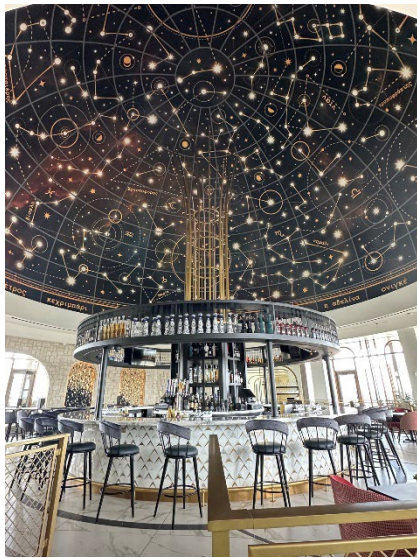


Congratulations to our partner, [Universal Helios Grand Hotel, a Loews Hotel](#), on their recent grand opening!

This brand new 500-room Mediterranean retreat combines immersion and relaxation to create a one-of-a-kind experience. It also becomes the newest addition to the destination's Signature Collection hotel category and luxury property to join the Central Florida lodging portfolio. Guests can enjoy amenities and benefits including a stunning rooftop bar, resort-style pool, poolside cabanas, a dedicated entrance to Universal Epic Universe.

From its unmatched location to the serene guest rooms, unforgettable dining experiences and creative expression throughout, Helios Grand Hotel, a Loews Hotel stands as a shining gateway at [Universal Orlando Resort's](#) Epic Universe.





On behalf of CFHLA, we wish all the best to Area Managing Director and CFHLA Immediate Past Chair **Barb Bowden**, General Manager **Robert Rivers**, and the entire Helios team on this amazing new addition to our community! We look forward to the positive impact this property will bring to our economy and the Central Florida region for decades to come.

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**Welcome Ali Mohammed as Regional Vice President and General Manager of the Four Seasons Resort Orlando at Walt Disney World Resort**



This week, several of our CFHLA partners and leaders had the opportunity to officially welcome **Ali Mohammed** as the new **Regional Vice President and General Manager** for the **Four Seasons Resort Orlando at Walt Disney World Resort**.

With an impressive 25-year career with Four Seasons, Ali began his path with the company in 2000 when he joined the opening team at Cairo First Residence as a Security Officer. From there, Ali travelled extensively throughout his career and brings a wealth of global experience from 16 different countries to his new role. His leadership and vision have been instrumental in enhancing guest experiences across multiple properties. Most recently, Ali served as the General Manager of the Four Seasons Hotel Miami, where he successfully led a \$22 million renovation project.

We are excited to see the continued excellence that Ali will bring to the Four Seasons Resort Orlando and please welcome him to our Central Florida Hospitality community!

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## Congratulations, Principal Russell of Wekiva High School



Congratulations to **Anthony Russell**, on being named the new Principal of **Wekiva High School**! A dedicated leader and passionate advocate for student success, Principal Russell has long been a valued partner in fostering career readiness and hospitality education within Orange County Public Schools.

We recently had an opportunity to meet with him and discuss ways that we could enhance our partnership with the high school. That is why we look forward to the continued collaboration with him and Wekiva High School, as we inspire the next generation of hospitality & culinary professionals!



**GLE**



**ARE YOU READY FOR HURRICANE SEASON?**  
See us at the Hurricane Preparedness Seminar on May 22

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## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MAY MEMBERS OF THE MONTH

### Meet Our May Members of the Month

CFHLA is proud to recognize our **May Lodging Member of the Month**, **William "Bill" Matthews, Director of Engineering** for **Sheraton Orlando Lake Buena Vista Resort**. We are grateful for Bill's incredible help in hosting the upcoming Hurricane Seminar later this month, as well as his continued support for many of CFHLA's initiatives and participation at our signature events. Furthermore, Bill has been an outstanding leader within the CFHLA Engineers Council.

Moreover, we are also proud to recognize our **May Allied Member of the Month**, **Joelynn Moses, Sales professional** for **Restore Now**. CFHLA is extremely grateful for Joelynn's outstanding involvement, participation, and phenomenal support as a Silver Partner Member of CFHLA. This includes her continual participation and involvement in numerous CFHLA events such as the recent St. Patrick's Day Golf Open and her service on so many of CFHLA's Committees.

It's because of these positive contributions and continued partnership, we are eager to recognize both of them this month!

**To nominate a future CFHLA Allied and/or Lodging Member of the Month, please [CLICK HERE](#).**



**William Matthews**

Sheraton Orlando Lake Buena  
Vista Resort Resort

**Joelynn Moses**

Restore Now

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## MEET THE VIP



### Did You Know...

**Massey Services**, a 91-year-old family business headquartered in Central Florida, specializes in providing comprehensive pest prevention solutions tailored for the hospitality industry. Their expert team ensures that hotels, resorts, and restaurants remain pest-free, creating a safe and welcoming environment for guests. With customized programs designed to meet the unique needs of hospitality businesses, Massey Services helps maintain your property's reputation and compliance with health codes.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

For more information on upcoming events, or to register, just click on the button below.

- [2025 Engineer's Council Clay Shoot Tournament \(5/2/2025\)](#)
  - [CFHLA PAC/PC Board of Directors Meeting \(5/7/2025\)](#)
  - [May Allied Relations Council Breakfast - Airport Area Hotels \(5/13/2025\)](#)
  - [Wednesday AM Leads Group \(5/14/2025\)](#)
  - [Wednesday Noon Leads Group \(5/14/2025\)](#)
  - [Downtown Hoteliers Meeting \(5/15/2025\)](#)
  - [CFHLA Executive Committee Meeting \(5/20/2025\)](#)
  - [Leadership Mentoring Committee Meeting \(5/22/2025\)](#)
  - [2025 Hurricane Preparedness Seminar \(5/22/2025\)](#)
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**CLICK HERE FOR A GUIDE  
TO REGISTER AN  
INDIVIDUAL FOR EVENTS**

**CLICK HERE FOR A GUIDE  
TO REGISTER A TABLE/  
TEAM FOR EVENTS**

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## **JOB OPENINGS**

Check out the latest hospitality employment opportunities in Central Florida.

**[VIEW JOB POSTINGS](#)**

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## **CONNECT WITH CFHLA**



**[WWW.CFHILA.ORG](http://WWW.CFHILA.ORG)**

About CFHLA

6675 Westwood Blvd #210, Orlando, FL 32821

The mission of the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association is to represent the Central Florida Hospitality Industry, by setting the standard of excellence through advocacy, collaboration, education, recognition, and service.