



January 17, 2025

### CFHLA Thanks Our Back of the House Sponsors

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### January Allied Relations Council Breakfast



On Tuesday, January 14th, CFHLA was excited to host our first [Allied Relations Council](#) Meeting and Breakfast of 2025. This breakfast was held at the [Hilton Orlando](#) (Thank you **Chris Mueller, General Manager**). In addition to the opportunity to network, more than 130 attendees heard from several leaders of the CFHLA Engineers Council, who shared updates on current and future projects at their respective properties.

The panel was moderated by the 2025 Engineers Council Chairman and 2021 CFHLA Engineer of the Year, **Justin Bolin** of [Walt Disney World Swan & Dolphin Resort](#) and the panelists included: **Mike Jueds**, [Hilton Orlando](#); **William Matthews**, [Sheraton Orlando Lake Buena Vista Resort](#); **Jorge Aldave**, [Omni Orlando Resort at ChampionsGate](#); and **Daniel Vidal**, [JW Marriott Orlando & Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes](#).



Lastly, CFHLA would like to thank the 2025 Allied Relations Council Breakfast Sponsor, [CEC Entertainment](#), for their support of "Members Doing Business With Members" throughout the year.



[Click Here to View the ARC Breakfast Photos](#)

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**CFHLA Holds First Lake County General Managers Meeting**



This week, CFHLA in collaboration with CFHLA Board Member and General Manager of [Mission Resort + Club](#), **Cindy Staley**, and Director of [Discover Lake County FL](#), **Ryan Ritchie**, hosted the inaugural Lake County General Managers meeting and luncheon.

This pivotal lunch meeting brought together representatives from ten (10) different Lake County hotels and featured a warm welcome from [Lake County Commissioner Kirby Smith](#). Attendees also heard updates from Discover Lake County, **Jason Siegel** with the [Greater Orlando Sports Commission](#), and CFHLA.

We are excited to continue expanding our presence in Lake County and look forward to further collaboration with our partners to drive progress and tourism success in across the region.



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**Thank you Barb Bowden!**



Congratulations again to our **CFHLA Immediate Past Chair Barb Bowden** of [Loews Hotels at Universal Orlando](#), as her portrait was unveiled this week on our CFHLA

Office “Wall of Fame.” The “Wall of Fame” is a CFHLA tradition that includes all previous CFHLA Board Chairs since the formation of our organization in 1980.

On behalf of CFHLA, we'd like to thank Barb for her strong, visionary leadership throughout 2024 as Chair and for your continued service to CFHLA and the hospitality industry, as the Immediate Past Chair of the CFHLA Board of Directors in 2025!

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### **Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld Welcomes Brian Wander as General Manager**

This week, CFHLA President/CEO Robert Agrusa and CFHLA Senior Vice President of Membership and Industry Relations Erin Walsh had the opportunity to officially welcome **Brian Wander** to our Central Florida Hospitality community.

With more than 25 years of experience with [Marriott International](#), Brian will bring his proven leadership from several esteemed brands, including [Fairfield Inn](#), [Courtyard by Marriott](#), [Renaissance](#), and the [JW Marriott](#) to his new role as the General Manager of the [Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld](#).

Brian began his hospitality career as a Area Sales Leader for Marriott in South Carolina, successfully overseeing numerous renovation projects including The Lindy Renaissance Charleston Hotel and the [JW Marriott Atlanta Buckhead](#). In addition, Brian has demonstrated a strong commitment to supporting the local community and the hospitality industry.

We look forward to seeing his continued success here in Central Florida and we encourage our members to stop by his property and say hello!



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## **Partners in Action - WELBRO Building Corporation Plays Santa at Riverside Elementary**

CFHLA thanks our **Partners in Action** at [WELBRO Building Corporation](#) for playing Santa at [Riverside Elementary School](#) during the recent holidays. WELBRO volunteers brought ornately wrapped generous gifts to students at the school, which is the company's [Adopt-A-School](#) partner. The WELBRO team sponsored the school's **Angel Tree Gift Project** and made sure that homeless students received holiday gifts.



They also delivered a generous supply of food to Riverside to support the school's Thanksgiving Food Drive for homeless students. Thanks again to these volunteers who captured the spirit of giving during the holiday season.

CFHLA Thanks all of our [Adopt-A-School](#) partners and volunteers who are working to make 2025 another great year!







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## **Partners in Action - Clean Tec Services Spreads Joy at Orlo Vista Elementary**

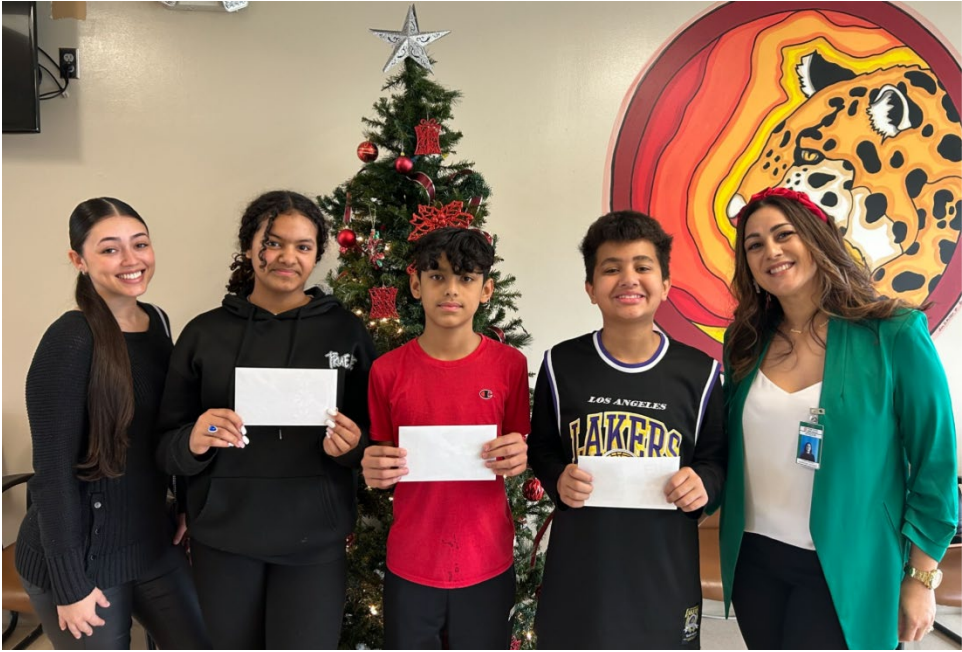
A big thank you to our **Partners in Action** from [Clean Tec Services](#) who helped spread holiday joy at [Orlo Vista Elementary School](#) as part of our [Adopt-A-School](#) Program.

The Clean Tec Services team sponsored the teachers lounge during December, providing a delicious lunch to 85 staff members to thank them for their support of the students throughout the year.

CFHLA is proud to continue our partnerships with Orange, Osceola and Seminole Counties, through our 2025 Adopt-A-School Program.



Partners in Action - SimpleFire Brings Gift Cards to Roberto Clemente Middle School



And kudos to our **Partners in Action** at [SimpleFire](#) for bringing holiday gift cards to students at [Roberto Clemente Middle School](#), which is SimpleFire's **Adopt-A-School** Partner. Students were excited to receive the gift cards so they could buy what they wanted during the holiday season. The act of kindness brought smiles to the faces of the donors and the recipients!



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### Thanks to Livie Bottled Water for 14 Year Partnership

CFHLA would like to thank [Livie Bottled Water](#) for their continued support of CFHLA. Over the past 14 years, Livie Bottled Water has continuously provided CFHLA with personalized and complimentary water bottles for all office meetings and events.

Livie Bottled Water has been in business since 2007. Discover the ultimate in convenient refreshment with LIVIE® Delivery Service. They hand-deliver LIVIE® Brand Natural Spring, Purified and Distilled Water in 5 gallon bottled water and 16.9 fl oz. sizes throughout Central Florida. They also offer custom labeled bottled water in 16.9 fl oz.

and 12 fl oz. sizes. This is perfect for increasing your brand awareness. Thanks again Livie, for your last standing partnership with CFHLA !



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### **Score Savings to See U.S. Men's National Team vs. Costa Rica Match**

Now is the time to score savings on a must-see soccer match next week! The [U.S. Men's National Team](#) will complete a two-match Florida swing with a friendly against **Costa Rica** on Wednesday, January 22nd at [Inter&Co Stadium](#). Kickoff will be at 7:00pm ET.

CFHLA is partnering with the [Greater Orlando Sports Commission](#) to offer an exclusive discount on tickets for this big match. [CLICK HERE](#) to buy tickets.

This match is the first of several soccer matches in 2025 that will give a huge boost to Central Florida's economy and to our hospitality and tourism industry, as Orlando continues to become a more dominant destination for men's and women's soccer.



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## Enjoy Discounted Tickets to 2025 NFL Pro Bowl Games

As the **NFL Playoffs** push into high gear, get ready for a chance to see the league's best players in action in Orlando! CFHLA is teaming up again this year with [Florida Citrus Sports](#), and we're thrilled to offer you exclusive access to discounted tickets for the [2025 NFL Pro Bowl Games](#) at [Camping World Stadium](#). Be there **Sunday, February 2, 2025**, as the AFC and NFC go head-to-head in a series of epic showdowns. **Discounted tickets start at just \$24**, so grab yours while they last.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more ticket information.



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JANUARY MEMBERS OF THE MONTH



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[Sheraton Orlando Lake Buena](#)

[Vista Resort](#)

**Akai Baker**

[Daisy Baker Cakes](#)

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## MEET THE VIP



# SOUTHEASTERN

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## LAUNDRY EQUIPMENT SALES

### Did You Know...

- When factoring in repair costs & the cost of inflation, the [Southeastern Laundry Equipment Sales](#) Lease Program is the same or less cost than purchasing.
- **UniMac Laundry Equipment** is the only equipment on the market that can cut labor costs!
- UniMac is proudly made in the USA
- Pete's driver license has him listed as 160 lbs. – that's a lie.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- [CFHLA Board of Directors Meeting - January 2025 \(1/22/2025\)](#)
- [2025 CFHLA January After Hours Reception \(1/22/2025\)](#)
- [Seminar #1- Leadership Development Series \(2/3/2025\)](#)
- [Housekeeping Council - Laundry Training Day \(2/5/2025\)](#)
- [2025 State of Hospitality & Tourism \(2/6/2025\)](#)



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[Click Here to View Upcoming  
CFHLA Meetings & 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.CFHLA.ORG](http://WWW.CFHLA.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.