

# FORWARD<sup>®</sup>

Women Advancing Hospitality

**MAY 10-11, 2022**  
**HILTON CHICAGO ~ CHICAGO, IL**

**PROGRAM AS OF MAY 3, 2022**

## **TUESDAY, MAY 10**

**10:00 – 11:30 am: ForWard Advisory Committee Meeting (*invitation only*)**

Marquette Room, 3rd Floor

**11:30 am – 12:30 pm: ForWard Advisory Committee & Ambassador Lunch (*invitation only*)**

Joliet Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

**12:00 pm – Registration Opens**

Continental Ballroom Foyer, Lobby Level

**1:00 pm – General Session Begins**

Continental Ballroom, Lobby Level

### **Welcome to ForWard Momentum**

- Katie Moore, CMP, Vice President, Conferences & Events, AHLA & ForWard Staff Liaison
- Chip Rogers, President & CEO, AHLA
- Ama Romaine, General Counsel, Real Estate Asset Management, Blackstone and Incoming ForWard Advisory Committee Chair

### **A View from the Top**

*Industry leaders on opportunities, challenges and what's ahead.*

- Jennifer Barnwell, President, Curator Hotel Collection
- Liz Ortiguera, CEO, Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA)
- Liz Perkins, SVP & Chief Financial Officer, Apple Hospitality REIT
- Julianne Smith, SVP, Upscale Development and Transactions & Asset Management, IHG Hotels & Resorts

Moderated by: Ama Romaine, General Counsel, Real Estate Asset Management, Blackstone and Incoming ForWard Advisory Committee Chair

### **C-Suite Spotlight: Amanda Hite, President, STR**

*Chip Rogers delves into the leadership path for influential women in hospitality and lessons learned along the way.*

### **ESG Takes Center Stage**

*AHLA sponsors and premier partners share how their organizations are aligning around ESG initiatives to support employees and key stakeholders.*

- MaryBeth Costello, VP Talent, Global Learning & Corporate HR, Encore
- Fannelie Gerard, Managing Director, Strategy & Consulting, Accenture Travel
- Dr. Merary Simeon, Vice President, Human Resources, Global Center of Excellence, PepsiCo
- Tammy Weinbaum, EVP/GM, American Express
- Moderated by: Melissa Greenwell, EVP & Chief Human Resources Officer, Towne Park

### **Mentorship Match**

*Against the backdrop of a newly launched AHLA Foundation mentorship program, successful mentor-mentee relationships share their stories highlighting the power of these connections.*

- Erica Cary, Vice President, Human Resources, Hilton
- Meghan Magette, Senior Director, Employer Branding, Hilton

### **Dimensions of Diversity – Networking Activity**

*How do we define who we are, embrace our difference and create a diverse society? Let's relate to each other through the dimensions of diversity as we get to know each other a little better.*

- Jennifer Clark Fugolo, Vice President, Advancement, AHLA Foundation

### **2:45 – 3:05 pm – Giving Back Break**

Continental Ballroom Foyer

### **3:05 pm – General Session Resumes**

Continental Ballroom, Lobby Level

#### **ForWard Feature: Lauren Simmons**

*Stories of resilience from the youngest trader, only female and second-ever African American Woman at the New York Stock Exchange.*

#### **Purpose, Empathy & Leadership: A Conversation with Mark Hoplamazian**

*Leading with empathy means being intentional in all that you do. Hear from former AHLA Chair of the Board on Hyatt's initiatives to support, grow, and empower team members at the corporate and property level.*

- Mark Hoplamazian, President & CEO, Hyatt Hotels Corporation

#### **Mentorship Match**

- Azim Saju, President & CEO, HDG Hotels
- Jyoti Sarolia, President & CEO, Ellis Hospitality Group

#### **General Manager Gurus: Property-Level Insights**

- Kristin Duncan, General Manager, Renaissance Chicago Downtown Hotel
- Kathy Heneghan, CMP, General Manager, Embassy Suites by Hilton Chicago-Downtown Magnificent Mile
- Shelley Meszoly, General Manager, 21C Museum Hotel Cincinnati and Co-Chair, AHLA General Managers Roundtable

Moderated by: Jennifer Chase, Senior Vice President, Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association

### **Closing Remarks**

### **5:15 – 6:15 pm – ForWard Networking Reception**

Continental Ballroom Foyer

*Keep the Momentum going with cocktails and conversation in the lobby. And don't forget to stop for a photo op at the W!*

## **WEDNESDAY, MAY 11**

### **7:00 – 7:45 am – Morning Wellness**

*Energize your day with one of our optional wellness offerings:*

- Sunrise Yoga – Waldorf Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor
- Downtown Power Walk – Meet in the lobby

### **8:00 am – Registration Opens**

Continental Ballroom Foyer, Lobby Level

**8:00 – 8:30 am – Breakfast Available**  
Continental Ballroom Foyer, Lobby Level

**8:30 am – General Session**  
Continental Ballroom, Lobby Level

**C-Suite Spotlight: Women Leading the Way**

*One organization, three, women-led divisions. Hear how this organization capitalizes on a women-supporting-women structure.*

- Roys Laux, SVP & General Manager, Gilchrist & Soames
  - Elizabeth McNulty, SVP & General Manager, Manchester Mills
  - Sandy Romoser, President, Guest Worldwide
- Moderated by: Kevin Carey, EVP & COO, AHLA

**Mentorship Match**

- Rob Palleschi, CEO, G6 Hospitality
- Ama Romaine, General Counsel, Real Estate Asset Management, Blackstone and Incoming ForWard Advisory Committee Chair

**C-Suite Spotlight: Kristin Schneider, COO, Americas - Hotels & Hospitality, JLL**

*Chip Rogers delves into the leadership path for influential women in hospitality and lessons learned along the way.*

**9:15 – 10:00 am – Breakout Sessions**

**1. Powerful Presenting, Powerful Impact**

Waldorf Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

*An interactive session to hone your public speaking skill, whether to an audience of 5 or 500.*

- Denise Thomas, President/Owner, The Effective Communication Coach

**2. Leadership Growth with Castell: An AHLA Foundation Project**

Astoria Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

*On the heels of this exciting merger, learn how you can engage and leverage the leadership opportunities provided by Castell: An AHLA Foundation Project.*

- Jenna Fishel, Senior Vice President, Revenue Generation, First Hospitality Group
- Leah Murphy, Founder & CEO, Jane Hotel Group
- Dina Winder, SVP, Asset Management, Highgate Hotels

Moderated by: Peggy Berg, Founder, Castell: An AHLA Foundation Project

**3. How to Attract & Build a Better Team**

Joliet Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

*Recruiting and retaining talent is more vital than ever – learn how empathy and individual connectivity are key components to success that are often overlooked.*

- Laisha Dismuke, Vice President, Human Resources, AHLA

**10:15 – 11:00 am – Breakout Sessions**

**1. Financial Literacy - what you need to know, personally & professionally.**

Joliet Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

- Kristen McNamara, Executive Director, J.P. Morgan Private Bank
- Maggie O'Brien, Managing Director, J.P. Morgan Private Bank

**2. Crafting a Healthy Way ForWard for Your Post-Pandemic Organization**

Waldorf Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

*Examine the level of health your organization is operating at from the operating at from the top down and put it on a growth trajectory with 4 key organizational resiliency building steps.*

- Meghan Beck, LCSW, Supervisor, National EAP

### 3. Your Next Move: Making the Most of a Candidate's Market

Astoria Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

*It is a candidate-driven market where opportunities abound. Learn how to predict a good fit with your style and a company's culture using Spencer Stuart's proprietary tool, The Individual Style Profile.*

- Chris DeRose, Consultant, Spencer Stuart
- Ann Fastiggi, Consultant, Spencer Stuart

#### 11:00 – 11:15 am – Networking Break

#### 11:15 am – General Session

Continental Ballroom, Lobby Level

##### **Maintaining ForWard Momentum**

*Attendees share their action items as the conference concludes – how will you maintain your ForWard Momentum?*

##### **ForWard Feature and Closing Luncheon: Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett**

*As we begin to emerge from what has been a traumatic few years, we'll hear from the lead scientist responsible for the COVID-19 mRNA vaccine development and a TIME Hero of the Year.*

#### 12:30 pm – Conference Concludes

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