

In keeping with CLIA's desire to "honor its own," the Excellence in Lodging and Hospitality Awards are presented annually to recognize the best in lodging management, operations, and hospitality services among CLIA members. The Excellence in Lodging and Hospitality Awards, created by the CLIA Board of Directors in 1999, include Excellence in Lodging and Hospitality for the Property/Owner or Operator (five categories); and Excellence in Lodging and Hospitality by a Staff Person.

Honorees are formally saluted at CLIA's "An Evening of Excellence" Gala Dinner Award Ceremony each fall in conjunction with The California Lodging Expo® and Conference. Honorees are also recognized in California Lodging magazine and press releases are sent to the lodging and hospitality trade publications.

For eligibility requirements, how to enter, and the deadline for applications, please contact the CLIA staff at (916) 925-2915 or visit [www.clia.org](http://www.clia.org) and click on "Lodging Expo."

#### CLIA ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND

CLIA's Educational Foundation was established to provide educational and training programs to entrepreneurs, managers and staff in the California lodging industry. In addition, CLIA supports several scholarships – a resident scholarship at Cal Poly Pomona's Collins School of Hospitality Management, and an annual \$1,500 award to worthy 4-year California college students pursuing an education in the lodging and hospitality fields.

For information about eligibility, award criteria, and deadlines for entry, please contact the CLIA staff for a brochure at (916) 925-2915 or visit [www.clia.org](http://www.clia.org) and click on "Awards and Scholarships." The recipient will be invited and recognized at the Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony in the fall.

#### DONATE TO CLIA'S EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND

CLIA is pleased to help provide the means for educational attainment to worthy hospitality scholars throughout California. Donations to the scholarship fund by check should be sent to: CLIA Educational Foundation Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 15918, Sacramento, CA 95852. If you would like to make a donation by credit card, please call CLIA at (800) 637-4664.

**2007 CLIA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNER**  
Angel Paz, Collins School of Hospitality Management,  
Cal Poly Pomona



L-R CLIA Chair, Laurene Douglas; Scholarship Award Winner, Angel Paz; CLIA Director, Rick Tipton; and CLIA President/CEO, Rick Lawrance congratulate the winner.

#### 2007 OUTSTANDING LODGING PROPERTY: CONSTRUCTION OR REFURBISHMENT CATEGORY Gaia Napa Valley Hotel



The Outstanding Lodging Property award was accepted by Wen I. Chang, owner and developer of Gaia Napa Valley Hotel & Spa. It is the first hotel in the country to earn the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold certification.

The hotel offers more than 100 green features including solar electric systems, daylight in every space, passive heating and cooling strategies, a lagoon that provides a habitat for native aquatic birds, an ozone laundry system, high-efficiency Mitsubishi "CityMulti" HVAC system, FSC-certified wood, dual-flush toilets and waterless urinals, and zero-VOC (volatile organic compound) finishes.

#### 2007 OUTSTANDING LODGING STAFF PERSON

Elba Mora, Executive Housekeeper, Holiday Inn Express  
Hotel & Suites, Oakland



Front Row - Elba Mora, award recipient. Back Row - L-R: CLIA Vice Chair, Nipool Patel; CLIA Chair, Laurene Douglas; Sima Patel, CLIA Director, Pravin Patel; and Immediate Past Chair, Don Turner.

Elba has worked more than twenty years for Sima & Pravin Patel—owners of the Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites, Oakland Airport. Over the years, she has shown unheralded dedication and pride in her work.

Each year, CLIA honors an outstanding staff person for "Excellence in Lodging & Hospitality." The award recognized Elba as an outstanding employee for her dedication and excellence in meeting, greeting and serving guests and representing the property in a positive manner. The judges consider an employee's initiative to provide excellent guest services, special actions in unusual circumstances, and the ability to instill in other staff the importance of exemplary guest services.