

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

What lies behind us and what lies before us are small matters compared to what lies within us.

NSW MINISTER'S STUDENT ACHIEVER AWARDS

TTA welcomed over 350 senior leaders of Tourism and Hospitality at the Four Seasons Hotel to recognise a group of outstanding students nominated by their Institute of Higher Education. These students were selected for their consistent academic achievement and for demonstrating the capabilities and personal qualities that would contribute to the Tourism and Hospitality industry in NSW. The Minister for Tourism, the Hon Matt Brown MP presented them with the Minister's Student Achievement Awards.

This year the awards were presented in a partnership between Tourism NSW and Tourism Training Australia. First offered by Tourism NSW in 1991, the Minister's Student Achiever Awards acknowledge the importance of professional training to the Tourism and Hospitality industry. TTA would like to congratulate the following recipients:

- Rithika Jaiprakash, Australian Business Academy
- Kristy Green, Australian Federation of Travel Agents College
- Devita Tjondro, Australian Institute of Commerce and Language
- Reid Green, Hostec Hospitality Institute
- Jessica Smith, Blue Mountains International Hotel School
- Peter Barrett, Charles Sturt University
- Sophie Corcoran, International College of Management (Macquarie University)
- Cassie Hawdon, Kenvale College of Tourism & Hospitality Management
- Peta Furyk, Southern Cross University
- Skye Morgan, TAFE NSW – Campbelltown Institute
- Loretta Marlan, TAFE NSW – Illawarra Institute, Shellharbour Campus
- Kassandra Young, TAFE NSW – New England Institute – Armidale Campus
- Natalie Watkins, TAFE NSW - Riverina Institute, Albury Campus
- Erin Bortolussi, TAFE NSW – Northern Sydney Institute – Ryde Campus
- Ermelinda Do Rosario Ximenes, University of Western Sydney
- Andrew Hayward Wright, William Blue College of Hospitality and Tourism.

SKILLS SHORTAGES THE PRODUCTIVITY PLACES PROGRAM

The Productivity Places Program will provide targeted training to address skills shortages currently being experienced across the Nation. This program will deliver better training outcomes for individuals and also ensure training better suits the needs of employers. More than ninety per cent of the training places will be at the Certificate III level and above. The program will only provide qualifications that are either at entry pathway or will allow individuals to to gain or update their skills, ensuring that they improve and maintain those skills needed. Skills shortages have been identified by the Reserve Bank as being a factor contributing to higher inflation and interest rates. Investment in education, skills and training is critical to expanding the productive side of the economy. The first 20,000 places of this program are directed at providing support for job seekers to get a foothold in the labour market. Eligible qualifications have been identified at Certificate II and III levels. Higher level qualifications are the focus of the additional training places to be provide to existing workers in subsequent phases of this program. These places are available to job seekers not currently in the workforce. Job seekers who are registered with an Employment Service Provider or Disability Employment Network must be referred to training under the program and can access this through a Registered Training Organisation. RTOs wishing to deliver the training as part of the program should visit the website at: www.productivityplaces.deewr.gov.au and apply via the online submission system.

AHA (NSW) ACCOMMODATION DIVISION 11TH ANNUAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

Tourism Training Australia would like to congratulate the winners from the 2008 AHA (NSW) Accommodation Division Awards for Excellence. Master of Ceremonies Shelley Craft, announced the 29 winners from a field of 34 finalists at the glamorous presentation dinner held at Four Seasons Sydney - the recipient of the Best Training 2008 award. This year was exceptionally hard for the judges, as the competition was fierce and the standards very high. The Sofitel Wentworth Sydney received top honours and was named Deluxe Hotel of the Year for 2008. Lillianfels Blue Mountains Resort & Spa and Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley are joint winners in the Regional Deluxe Property of the Year category and Crowne Plaza Parramatta was awarded Superior Hotel of the Year 2008. The Carrington Hotel was named Regional Superior Property of the Year 2008.

Hosted by AHA (NSW) Accommodation Division Chairman Mr Richard Munro, more than 460 senior leaders attended the gala dinner. This year's AHA (NSW) Accommodation Awards received a record number of entries from across New South Wales. To receive a full list of the winners log onto www.ahansw.com.au

LEADERS FORUM SERIES BACK BY POPULAR REQUEST

Back by popular request, Tourism Training Australia is pleased to announce the next Senior Industry Leader's Luncheon in partnership with AHA NSW.

Forum 3 – Tuesday June 17th 2008, 12.15pm
Swissôtel Sydney – 68 Market Street, Sydney

This exciting leaders forum series continues to provide industry with an opportunity to meet a range of leaders integral to the future directions of Tourism and Hospitality.

For further information contact: bill@tourismtraining.com.au

SIR FRANK MOORE AO – INDUSTRY FAREWELL

The Industry will bid a warm farewell to Sir Frank Moore AO in Sydney on:

Thursday June 26th 2008, 7.00 pm
Four Seasons Hotel, 199 George Street Sydney

This is your opportunity to enjoy the company of a select group of senior industry colleagues whilst farewelling Sir Frank and remembering his support to Tourism and Hospitality. **A CELEBRATION NOT TO BE MISSED.**

For further information contact: bill@tourismtraining.com.au



2008 Tourism Training Australia Conference

A selection of presentations from this exciting event are now available online at the TTA website!

www.tourismtraining.com.au

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