



MPI and GBTA Foundation Recognize CMM Recipients from Norfolk 2016 Class, Announce Destinations for 2017 Programs

DALLAS, TX and ALEXANDRIA, VA – January 12, 2017 – [Meeting Professionals International \(MPI\)](#) and the GBTA Foundation, the education and research arm of the [Global Business Travel Association \(GBTA\)](#), recently presented the distinguished Certificate in Meeting Management (CMM) to 37 meeting and travel professionals from the CMM Norfolk 2016 class. Also, the associations are planning to offer two programs in Palm Springs, Calif., and Reno, Nev., this year.

“We cannot be more pleased with the strong interest the CMM Program has received from our global community,” said Paul Van Deventer, president and CEO of MPI. “Participants have consistently shared positive feedback on the program’s educational content and instructors.”

With the addition of the Norfolk class, there are now a total of 1,185 holders worldwide. The group participated in the program held August 25 – 28, 2016, in Norfolk, Va., at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott.

“Congratulations to each of these remarkable leaders on their achievement,” added Van Deventer.

Following are a few testimonials from CMM Norfolk 2016 program participants.

“The CMM Program was a beneficial experience. The caliber of instructors from Darden was exceptional. The years of experience and the caliber of the other meeting planners in the program enhanced my learning experience.” – Renee Hipp, The Details

“Great experience for the tenured, experienced meeting professional whose career has expanded to the leadership and strategic level.” – Wayne Robinson, FM Global

“Hands down the best opportunity, to grow both professionally and personally that I have experienced in my 14+ years in the meeting and events industry. The attention to detail, dedication by the facilitators and helpful nature of the staff all make this the number one professional development program in my opinion.” – Lisa Causey, Communities Foundation of Texas

“The education and instructors are worth so much more than the cost of the program. This is a learning environment that engages critical, creative thinking that can be applied immediately to real world scenarios.” – Nicholas Bonora, Purdue University

For more information on the CMM Program and to apply, please visit www.mpiweb.org/CMM. Registration is currently open for the Palm Springs program, which is scheduled for May 23 -26, 2017. The Reno program dates will be published online soon. To learn more about the MPI Academy’s various professional development offerings, check out www.mpiweb.org/mpi-academy.

MPI and GBTA commend the following 37 professionals from the Norfolk class on obtaining the CMM designation.

Cynthia Aliskowsky | Amway Latin America | Monterrey, Mexico
Nicholas Bonora | Purdue University | West Lafayette, IN
Andrea Cannistraci | andgreat | Hermosa Beach, CA
Lisa S. Causey, CMP | Communities Foundation of Texas | Dallas, TX
Diane Dreis | Hollister Incorporated | Libertyville, IL
Emily Dunn | Aladdin Travel & Meeting Planners | Winston-Salem, NC
Meredith Flanagan, CMP | Gensler | Arlington, VA
Jessica Fougere | Commonwealth Financial Network | Medford, MA
Karen Geesey | AO North America | Honey Brook, PA
Lisa Gillette | Investment Adviser Association | Washington, DC
Natasha Gore | Black Enterprise | New York, NY
Lin Guba, CMP | Independent | Elkridge, MD
Renee Hipp | The Details | Issaquah, WA
Ronda Keys, CMP, CEM, CTA, DES, HMCC | William F. Bolger Center – Aramark | Potomac, MD
Meg Kylander | RAND Corporation | Santa Monica, CA
Andrea Magruder, CMP | Genex Systems, Inc. | Yorktown, VA
Kendra McMurray | Booz Allen Hamilton | Woodbridge, VA
Johanna McQuoid | IHS Markit | Englewood, CO
Chantal Montpetit, CMP | Canadian Construction Association | Ottawa, ON
Heidi Pascale | ASSA ABLOY Americas | New Haven, CT
Emilie Perkins, CMP, CAE | LeadingAge IN | Indianapolis, IN
Karen Piccioli, CMP | Planner Matrix | Hopkinton, MA
Cathy Piecuch | Ultramar Travel Management Events | Rochelle Park, NJ
Christa Robbins, CMP | Plex Systems, Inc. | Livermore, CA
Wayne Robinson | FM Global | Johnston, RI
Kate Salik | Sault Ste. Marie, MI
Laura Scheller, CMP | Solmonte Hospitality | Phoenix, AZ
Cheryl Schreiner, MBA, CMP | HelmsBriscoe | Jacksonville, FL
Carmen Shannon | L Brands, Inc. | Columbus, OH
Traci Sheehan, CMP | NCCI | Boca Raton, FL
Angela Skeen | Ingersoll Rand | Cumming, GA
Candace Sutherland | Commonwealth Hotels, Inc. | Lithia, FL
Cindy Thompson | Manhattan Associates | Atlanta, GA
Tammy Thompson | Voxmedia | Montclair, NJ
Sarah Watson | Canadian Mathematical Society | Ottawa, ON
Jennifer Welding | Colorado State University | Fort Collins, CO
Erica White | Independent | Knoxville, TN

About MPI

Meeting Professionals International (MPI) is the largest meeting and event industry association worldwide. The organization provides innovative and relevant education, networking opportunities and business exchanges, and acts as a prominent voice for the promotion and growth of the industry. MPI has a global community of 60,000 meeting and event professionals including more than 17,000 engaged members and its Plan Your Meetings audience. It has more than 90 chapters and clubs in 24 countries. “When we meet, we change the word.” www.mpiweb.org

About the GBTA Foundation

The GBTA Foundation is the education and research foundation of the Global Business Travel Association (GBTA), the world's premier business travel and meetings trade organization headquartered in the Washington, D.C. area with operations on six continents. Collectively, GBTA's 9,000-plus members manage more than \$345 billion of global business travel and meetings expenditures annually. GBTA provides its growing network of more than 28,000 travel professionals and 125,000 active contacts with world-class education, events, research, advocacy and media. The Foundation was established in 1997 to support GBTA's members and the industry as a whole. As the leading education and research foundation in the business travel industry, the GBTA Foundation seeks to fund initiatives to advance the business travel profession. The GBTA Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. For more information, see gbta.org and gbta.org/foundation.

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