

## **Andria Lewis Honored as 'Woman of the Year' for Achievements and Leadership**

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As Andria Lewis puts it: "Customer service never gets a day off." Those wise words exemplify why Lewis was chosen as the Women's Business Alliance "Woman of the Year" at the 55th annual convention of Choice Hotels International, Inc. . The award was announced during an evening gala at the convention last month in Washington, D.C.

Lewis, co-owner of the Golden Hotel, an Ascend Collection hotel in Golden, Colo. since 2004 and the Quality Inn & Suites Hotel in Boulder, Colo., was honored for her professional achievement, personal leadership and commitment in the lodging industry.

"I am honored to be chosen among all the remarkable women who work daily to make our industry a welcoming place for women to join," Lewis said. "I believe it is so important to encourage women to become part of this thriving and successful industry."

She said she felt honored to be nominated along with two "outstanding" fellow nominees -- Darlene Janssen, General Manager of the Comfort Inn Hotel in Brandon, Manitoba, Canada and Jan Mosbrucker, Co-Owner of the Quality Inn Hotel in Goldendale, Wash.

All three were nominated for serving as role models for women in the industry and inspiring both their peers and employees through their actions, personal values and ethics.

Lewis, who worked for Estee Lauder and Tiffany & CO prior to entering the hospitality industry in 1999, has achieved notable success in her 10 years in the lodging industry. Her two properties were 2009 Inn of the Year finalists. The Quality Inn & Suites hotel has earned the Choice Gold Award five times, was awarded the Choice Platinum Award in 2006, and was named Best in Brand in 2006.

The Golden Hotel, an Ascend Collection has earned both the Choice Gold and Platinum awards, was a finalist in 2006 and 2008 for Inn of the year and was named Best in brand in 2006.

Lewis believes in strong corporate training and ongoing employee communications. She treats both employees and guests alike -- with great respect. Like Lewis, the employees have a strong commitment to customer service, which paves the way for the hotel to thrive.

"Our employees are dedicated to putting our customers first," said Lewis.

Lewis serves on the Choice Hotels Owners Council board, Choice's Regional Advisory Board and is vice chair of the Standards and Operations Committee. She is a member of the Colorado Hotel & Lodging Association and Boulder Convention and Visitors Bureau as well as past President of the Boulder Hotel & Motel Association where she still remains on the board.

She has played a very influential role in the Boulder hotel community, helping to spearhead an annual health fair. She also plays an active role with a Colorado organization, which donates used and new clothing for homeless women trying to return to the work force. She helps these women in writing their resumes and coaches them on interviewing skills.

## About Choice Hotels

Choice Hotels International franchises more than 5,800 hotels, representing more than 475,000 rooms, in the United States and more than 30 countries and territories. As of March 31, 2009, 896 hotels are under construction, awaiting conversion or approved for development in the United States, representing 70,381 rooms, and an additional 111 hotels, representing 9,114 rooms, are under construction, awaiting conversion or approved for development in more than 15 countries and territories. The company's Comfort Inn, Comfort Suites, Quality, Sleep Inn, Clarion, Cambria Suites, MainStay Suites, Suburban Extended Stay Hotel, Econo Lodge and Rodeway Inn brands serve guests worldwide. In addition, via its Ascend Collection membership program, travelers in the United States and the Caribbean have upscale lodging options at historic, boutique and unique hotels.

Additional corporate information may be found on the Choice Hotels Web site, which may be accessed at [www.choicehotels.com](http://www.choicehotels.com).

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