

**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOLS OF CHOICE & PARENTAL OPTIONS
PRESS RELEASE FORM**

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**Miami Beach High Academy of Hospitality and Tourism Continues Its Reign as
State Lodging Management Champions**

Miami Beach, FL--The three-member student team of Isabella Mongalo, Flavia Oliveira and Francheska Salguero proved that study, hard work and perseverance does pay off! As a result, these Miami Beach High School students won the State Championship of the Lodging Management Program student competition sponsored by the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association Educational Foundation under the auspices of the American Hotel & Lodging Association. This accomplishment makes Miami Beach High School's Academy of Hospitality and Tourism the state champions for six out of the eight years that the competition has been held.

The competition took place at the Saddlebrook Resort Tampa in Wesley Chapel, Florida and was held in conjunction with the Board of Directors Meeting of the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association. The team's skills in hotel operations, which included case studies in food and beverage, sales/marketing, a night audit, room inspection, banquet and event planning as well as a knowledge bowl demonstrating their skills and knowledge in Lodging Management were tested. Students enhance their skills needed for this competition through extended classroom experiences provided through the various business partners who serve as members of the Academy of Hospitality and Tourism (AOHT) Advisory Board. Each student received a \$1,000 scholarship (renewable for four years) to Johnson & Wales University and to Daytona State College. These students will represent the state of Florida at the national championship to be held in Orlando at the Rosen Shingle Creek in April.

The Academy of Hospitality and Tourism (AOHT) is a Marketing program under the auspices of the Schools of Choice and Parental Options Office and a member program of the National Academy Foundation (NAF), a national network of career academies to support the development of America's youth toward personal and professional success in high school, higher education and throughout their careers. Miami-Dade County Public Schools has fourteen Academies of Hospitality and Tourism. For additional information about the Miami-Dade County Public Schools Academy of Hospitality and Tourism, please the Schools of Choice Office at 305.995.1922 or www.miamimagnets.org.



Pictured left to right: Francheska Salguero, Isabella Mongalo and Flavia Oliveira

About the National Academy Foundation

The National Academy Foundation (NAF) is a national network of career academies to support the development of America's youth toward personal and professional success in high school, higher education and throughout their careers. For nearly 30 years, NAF has refined a proven model that provides young people access to industry-specific curricula, work-based learning experiences, and relationships with business professionals.

During the 2009-10 school year, 500 NAF academies served more than 53,000 students across 41 states, D.C. and the U.S. Virgin Islands. NAF's national graduation rate of 90% testifies to the effectiveness of this effort. Miami-Dade County Public Schools, under the auspices of School Choice & Parental Options, has 44 NAF programs in 24 senior high schools that encompass the career themes of Finance, Hospitality and Tourism, Information Technology and Engineering.

For additional information about the Miami-Dade County Public Schools' NAF programs, please contact School Choice & Parental Options at 305.995.1922 or www.miamimagnets.org.

About the Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association

The Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association is among the most influential trade associations in Florida. The association was established in 1946 to represent the restaurant industry. Since that time, the scope of FRLA's representation has expanded to include the entire hospitality industry including lodging establishments, restaurants and thousands of suppliers to the industry. The association counts among its members some of the largest businesses in each of these categories.

Florida's hospitality industry represents:

- A 57 billion dollar industry
- 20% of Florida's economy
- 3.4 billion dollars in sales tax revenue
- More than 900,000 employees – Florida's largest employer.

The Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association Educational Foundation is the only organization in Florida that offers the Lodging Management Program. This program was developed to increase the quality and employability of today's high school graduates by providing them with training related to important job skills as well as opportunities for careers in hospitality and higher education.

For additional information about the Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association, please contact Laura Rumer, School to Career Director at laura@frla.org.

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