



Bayou Bulletin

DECEMBER 2018

[Call for Nominations](#) [Board of Directors 2019-2020](#)

"Being on the MPI Houston Area Chapter Board of Directors means... connecting with a global network, being a leader in the Houston Meetings Community, experiencing immediate on-the-job training in areas it may take years to experience otherwise and growing both personally and professionally."

[Apply now](#) or for complete details on available leadership positions [click here](#).

The deadline to submit an application is **Monday, January 11, 2019**.

MEMBER NEWS

[Membership](#) [Renewal](#) [Discount Offer](#)

For January membership renewals use the offer code '**JanRenew**' to receive \$50 off. Applies to Essential, Preferred & Premier. Excludes students, faculty, dual & retired. Valid 1/1/19-1/31/19

New Member Spotlight **Melissa Taylor**



[**Anniversaries**]

One Year:

Keisha Sapp, CMP
ExxonMobil

Jordan Jackson
Darcy Partners

Hannah Farag
Darcy Partners

Marwa Ammar, CMP

Heather Fricke
Wyndham Houston
West - Energy
Corridor

Five Years:

Elizabeth Simons,
CMP
ConocoPhillips

Lauren Johnston
Nexeo Solutions

Staci Currie
AHLI

Ten Years:

Niki Wade
Hyatt Regency
Houston Galleria

Heather Ives
Hernandez
FreeRange Concepts

35 Years:

Constance Tierney
UT M.D. Anderson
Cancer Center

[New Members]

Tonisha Alexander
Third Coast

Morgan Bindon
Immunotec

George Cromwell
PSAV

Priscilla De La Rosa
Fig & Olive

Chris Denny

An opportunity as a group sales manager at La Torretta Lake Resort and Spa brought Melissa Taylor to the meetings and events industry where she now shares her talents and passion for building relationships and creating unique experiences for her clients. Melissa, a native Texan and graduate of Houston Baptist University, began her career in real estate but transitioned to the hospitality industry two years ago and is now the Corporate Sales Manager at La Torretta. Striving to exceed expectations is a daily practice and she takes great pleasure in assisting and mentoring others in accomplishing their own professional goals while keeping an eye on her own of becoming a VP of Sales at some point. Mom of two beautiful girls, Melissa spends much of her time away from the office supporting the girls in their many activities. When she does get a bit of free time for herself Melissa enjoys reading, singing or working on her dream of camping out under the Northern Lights one of these nights.

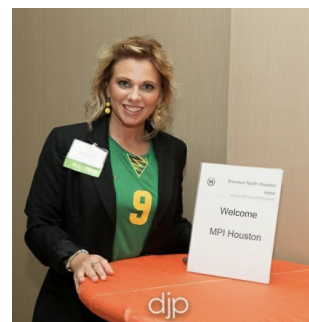
Welcome, Melissa!

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Heather Fricke

Heather Fricke is the November 2018 volunteer of the month!

Heather is the Senior Sales Manager at Wyndham Houston West Energy Corridor. She is an active member of MPI HAC's Membership Committee. She has been an MPI Member since 2017 and volunteering since earlier this year.



Congratulations, Heather!

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Natalia Llanos

*Attention to Details
Solutions*

Geoffrey Dobbin
BellaVetro

Oraneka Guidry
*Coushatta Casino
Resort*

Sara Heald

Terri Higgins
*Correlations LLC
Event Planning
Program*

Chuan Chen Kuo

Cynethia Lollie
Ashworth College

Ashley Marshall

Shawn Sparks

Michelle Trejo
BDO USA, LLP

Ivy P



New to MPI this semester, Natalia Llanos is already considered one of the most dedicated members by her student peers. Natalia recently moved to Houston from her home in Lima, Peru and although she did not start out with the goal of working in meeting and event planning, she is well on her way to being a key contributor to the industry. Natalia is currently completing her senior year in Hotel and Restaurant Management at the Conrad N. Hilton College and has just learned she has been accepted into the Graduate Program at University of Houston. Her hospitality experience outside of school includes working for hotel and entertainment companies including multiple internships with Disney. Travel and adventure are Natalia's personal passions and she hopes one day to see the world from a skydiver's perspective. Her ultimate professional dream is to someday take her skills and experiences back home to Peru and further foster the culture of hospitality, enhancing the tourism industry in her native land. A driven and passionate young lady, we look forward to seeing more from Natalia as her career progresses.

MEET YOUR BOARD

President Elect

Linda Hampton

Norris Conference Center, CEO/Owner



Linda has been with Norris Conference Centers since 1990. Starting out as the company's conference coordinator, she is now CEO. Previously, Ms. Hampton was employed with Prentiss Properties, in the area of commercial property management. Prior to 1989, she was employed in various positions with the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce. She holds a B.S. in Education from Baylor University, an MBA from Texas State University, and a Masters in Human Resources and Developmental Leadership from The University of Texas - Austin. In 1997, Linda became a Certified Meeting Planner. Ms. Hampton has been instrumental in keeping up with industry trends via her participation and continuing education in industry specific organizations such as: Meeting Professionals International, American Society of Training and Development, Society of Human Resource Managers and the International Assoc. of Conference Centers..

UPCOMING EVENTS

MPI HOUSTON AREA CHAPTER

PRESENTS



January CAP'D Luncheon

WHEN:

January 23, 2019
11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

WHERE:

Omni Houston Hotel
Four Riverway
Houston, TX 77056

SPEAKER:

Amelia Mimi Brown

[Register now!](#)

MPI HOUSTON AREA CHAPTER

PRESENTS



February CAP'D Luncheon

WHEN:

February 27, 2019
11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

WHERE:

Houston Marriott CityPlace
1200 Lake Plaza Drive
Spring, TX 77389

[Details & Registration
coming soon!](#)



**HOUSTON
AREA**

CHAPTER

March Special Event! Details coming soon!

[Details & Registration
coming soon!](#)

Forward this email

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