



# *Bayou Bulletin*

October 2018

## MEMBER NEWS

### Member Celebrations

The Chapter is excited to revitalize the program celebrating members' milestone years of service to MPI. The Houston Chapter in conjunction with MPI Global, has restocked lapel pins that recognize membership milestones in 5-year increments.

Pins are presented based on continuous years of service. If ever there was a "gap" in membership, based on policy, your years of service automatically defers numbers of years for your current membership.

First year members will receive a MPI pin upon renewal of their second year. Recipients will be notified prior to the

### New Member Spotlight: Regina Riojas



A native Houstonian who grew up studying the concert piano, Regina Riojas recently joined the Hotel Icon as the Sales & Catering Manager working with the SMERF and Association markets. Regina was drawn to the meetings industry during college when she worked as a Front Desk Agent and then she made the move to the Sales and Catering Department upon graduation. With over four years under her professional hospitality industry belt, her future career aspirations are to serve as the Director of Catering or Convention Services with some lucky employer. In her spare time, Regina loves scouting out new restaurants, diving into a good book or cheering at one of her favorite Houston sporting events.

Welcome Regina!

monthly lunch, featured during the lunch slideshow, and presented a pin by our President or a Board Member.

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## [ Anniversaries ]

### One Year:

Ashley Chabaud  
*Eversheds Sutherland, LLP*

David Jones, CPP  
*D. Jones Photography*

Ian Dutton

Peter Hernandez  
*Houston First Corporation*

Judy Chan  
*NRG Park*

Dixie Meynier  
*Waste Management*

Caprile Capetillo  
Aguero  
*Doubletree by Hilton Houston Downtown*

Wooyeon Shin  
*University of Houston*

Kara Bacon  
*University of Houston*

### Fifteen Years:

Dene Bon, CMP  
*AIG*

### Twenty Years:

Kimberly Conner  
*Moody Gardens Hotel*

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## [ New Members ]

Tiffany Cheng  
*University of Houston*

Binh Dao

Maya Hajjar

# VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

## Dorita Hatchett

Dorita Hatchett is the August 2018 volunteer of the month!

Dorita is the Chief Strategist and Thought Partner of her own company D.L. Hatchett & Associates, and is an active member of MPI HAC's Education Committee. She has been an MPI Member since 2017 and volunteering since earlier this year.

Congratulations, Dorita!



## Mary Ward

Mary Ward is one of the September 2018 volunteers of the month!

Mary is the Team Lead for Corporate Meetings & Incentives at The Friedkin Group. She is an active member of MPI HAC's Event Committee. She has been an MPI Member since 2016 and volunteering since earlier this year.

Congratulations, Mary!



## Liz Cavazos

Liz Cavazos is one of the September 2018 volunteers of the month!

Liz is the Meeting & Events Manager at Corporate Travel Planners. She is an active member of MPI HAC's Event Committee. She has been an MPI Member since 2018 and volunteering since earlier this year.

Congratulations, Liz!



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# STUDENT

# SPOTLIGHT

Aimee Harrity  
*University of Houston*

Catrina Houston  
*Hotel ICON*

Hao Chuan Huang

Angela Khuat  
*University of Houston*

Natalia Llanos

Feng Lu  
*University of Houston*

Sara McPhillips

Jessica Modad

Jocelyn Moore

Sydney Plas  
*EB Inc. Event Rentals  
& Design*

Cindy Rodriguez, MPM  
*CITGO Petroleum*

Naomi Rosales

Maria Sanchez  
Gonzalez

Ryan Stephenson

Wenjing Wang

Mercedes Williams  
*Visit Houston*

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Ashish Jain is in his senior year at the Conrad N. Hilton College of Hotel & Restaurant Management at the University of Houston. He joined MPI as a student member in fall 2017. Ashish is currently the Vice President/Director of Finance of MPI University of Houston Cougar. Upon graduation this December, he will be working with the JW Marriott Hill Country Resort & Spa in San Antonio through the Voyager Program. We are proud of you Ashish!

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## MEET YOUR BOARD

*Director of Member Care*

**Elizabeth Brazil**

*ERB Events*



Elizabeth Brazil, CMP brings a diverse skill set to our industry. Coming to the meetings industry after 10 years running chambers of commerce and with an ample history of event development and production for fairs and festivals in California, Elizabeth's experiences help inspire an imaginative approach to meeting and event visioning and

development, while being mindful of the bottom line. Working as both an independent contractor as well as running her own independent meeting and event business, ERB Events, Elizabeth has had the great pleasure to work on meetings and events with budgets that range from \$2,000 to \$2+ million.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MPI HOUSTON AREA CHAPTER



#### October CAP'D Luncheon

**WHEN:**

October 24, 2018  
11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**WHERE:**

House of Blues  
204 Caroline St.  
Houston, TX 77002

**SPEAKER:**

Dax Patton, Business  
Development Manager,  
SXSW

***WALK-INS Welcome!***



#### November MPI-LENNIALS Student Led Event

**WHEN:**

November 28, 2018  
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

**WHERE:**

BellaVetro Mosaic Studio  
396 Garden Oaks Blvd.,  
Houston, TX 77018

**SPEAKER:**

Jamie Belinne, UH Bauer  
Assistant Dean

*Registration coming soon!*

### MPI HOUSTON AREA CHAPTER



#### January CAP'D Luncheon

**WHEN:**

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

**WHERE:**

Omni Houston Hotel  
Four Riverway  
Houston, TX 77056

*Registration & details  
coming soon!*

Forward this email

STAY CONNECTED



MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL HOUSTON AREA CHAPTER  
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