



Friday, June 18, 2010

W Atlanta Buckhead GM gets national honor

Atlanta Business Chronicle - by [Lisa R. Schoolcraft](#)

Marylouise Fitzgibbon has been named the national winner of the **American Hotel & Lodging Association's** General Manager of the Year.

Fitzgibbon, general manager of W Atlanta Buckhead, beat out 49 other finalists for top honors in the medium-sized hotel category at the association's June 16 ceremony, which was held in Phoenix.

"I am honored to be awarded this prestigious award," said Fitzgibbon, who has spent 18 years with **Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide Inc.** (NYSE: HOT), which operates the **W Hotels** brand.

Earlier this year, Fitzgibbon won a similar award from the Atlanta-based **Georgia Hotel & Lodging Association** "but this is my first time winning a national award."

Fitzgibbon was responsible for the opening of the W Atlanta Buckhead. Under her leadership the hotel was chosen as the 2009 Buckhead Business of the Year.

Fitzgibbon is a member of the hospitality cabinet of the **United Way** and Food For The Poor's Haiti fundraising committee. She is also a board member of the state's hotel and lodging association.

A graduate of the **University of Central Florida**, Fitzgibbon also serves as an adjunct professor at **Georgia State University's Cecil B. Day School of Hospitality**.

Two other Georgia hotels also came home with awards from the national ceremony.

The Sheraton Atlanta Hotel won an award for outstanding technical innovation and Billy Johnson, manager of Best Western Evans Hotel in Grovetown, near Augusta, won for outstanding manager of the year for small-sized property.