

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Louisiana Hospitality Foundation Aids Restaurant Industry Member with \$5,000 Grant

NEW ORLEANS, LA– Aug 21, 2008 – The Louisiana Hospitality Foundation (LHF), a local non-profit organization founded by hospitality industry leaders and working to improve the community by providing support for education, children, the hospitality community, and culinary programs, has awarded a \$5,000 grant to Lorenzo Rodriguez. Rodriguez is a New Orleans native who has been employed in the hospitality industry since he was 16 years old and presently employed by Emeril's Restaurant. Due to a tragic auto accident, he has been unable to continue his work in the culinary field. The donation by the LHF will go to assist in paying medical expenses and other related needs.

“It has been a very difficult time for the family” said Lorenzo’s mother, Argelia Rodriguez. “Lorenzo has a long way to go still, but we are very thankful. We had no idea of all of the good people around Lorenzo and as a part of his life.”

“We are so happy to be able to help Lorenzo and his family in some small way. He is an amazing person who is exactly the type of person that makes this industry great,” said Greg Reggio, board member of the Louisiana Hospitality Foundation and a founding partner in several restaurant concepts, including Zea’s. “We hope this donation assists toward his speedy recovery.”

The Louisiana Hospitality Foundation was founded in 2006 with a mission to facilitate the efforts of the hospitality industry to improve the community in a variety of ways and to provide support for the education, health and social welfare of the children of the community. It is designated as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. For more information, please contact David Blich, Hilton New Orleans Riverside, at (504) 584-3849.

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