



# FORWARD

Momentum

**MAY 4-5, 2023**  
**SWISSOTEL CHICAGO ~ CHICAGO, IL**

## **THURSDAY, MAY 4**

- 9:00 - 11:00 am**      **ForWard Advisory Committee Meeting** (*invitation only*)  
Vevey 3
- 11:15 am - 12:30 pm**    **ForWard Advisory Committee & Ambassador Lunch** (*invitation only*)  
Vevey 1 & 2
- 11:00 am - 6:30 pm**    **Registration**  
Zurich Foyer
- 1:00 - 3:00 pm**        **ForWard General Session**  
Zurich Ballroom

### **Welcome to ForWard Momentum**

**Anna Blue**, President, AHLA Foundation  
**Chip Rogers**, President & CEO, AHLA

**Leader Spotlight: Julie Arrowsmith**, CEO, G6 Hospitality  
Conversation with **Chip Rogers**

### **Hotel Operations Unpacked**

**Jale Hashimi**, Divisional VP of Operations - Independent and Lifestyle Division,  
Remington Hotel Corporation  
**Vera Manoukian**, Chief Operating Officer, Sonesta International Hotels  
**Linda Theisen**, Vice President, Americas, Hilton Supply Management  
**Elizabeth Uber**, COO, Extended Stay America  
Moderated by: **Amanda Hite**, President, STR

### **Mentorship Match – Success Stories of the Foundation Mentorship Program**

**Dayna Kully**, Co-Founder, 5thGenWireless and **Madison Austrich**, Business Analytics  
Manager, Aimbridge Hospitality

**Malaika Myers**, Chief HR Officer, Hyatt Hotels Corporation & ForWard Advisory  
Committee Vice Chair, and **Connie McCauslin**, Managing Director, Communications &  
PR, G6 Hospitality

**Moderated by: Jennifer Clark Fugolo**, Vice President, Advancement, AHLA Foundation

- 3:00 - 3:35 pm**        **Networking Break**  
Zurich Foyer
- 3:35 - 5:00 pm**        **ForWard General Session Resumes**  
Zurich Ballroom

**Outstanding Service: General Managers Weigh In**

**Iris Junge**, General Manager, The Gwen, A Luxury Collection Hotel

**Leydi Naranjo** General Manager, The Buckingham Hotel

**JoAnn L. Wrenn**, General Manager, The Logan Hotel

Moderator: **Shelley Meszoly**, Area General Manager, 21c Museum Hotels & Chair, AHLA GM Roundtable

**Leader Spotlight: Sheila Johnson**, Founder and CEO, Salamander Hotels & Resorts  
Conversation with **Chip Rogers**

**ForWard Together: Actions Advancing Our Industry**

**Nigel Barker**, CEO, StudioNB Inc.

**Rod Clough**, MAI, President, HVS Americas, HVS

**Michael George**, Founder, President & CEO, Crescent Hotels & Resorts & AHLA Board of Directors Member

**Justin Knight**, President & CEO, Apple Hospitality REIT & Immediate Past Chair, AHLA Board of Directors

Moderated by: **Anna Blue**, President, AHLA Foundation

**Closing Remarks**

**Mari Sifo**, Executive Vice President & Chief HR Officer, Host Hotels & Resorts

**5:00 - 6:30 pm ForWard Networking Reception** – *Presented by Host Hotels & Resorts*

Vevey Ballroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

**FRIDAY, MAY 5**

**8:00 am - 1:30 pm**      **Registration**  
Zurich Foyer

**7:45 – 9:00 am**      **Breakfast Available**  
Zurich Foyer

**8:30 - 9:50 am**      **ForWard General Session**  
Zurich Ballroom

**Welcome Back**

**Anna Blue**, President, AHLA Foundation

**Malaika Myers**, Chief HR Officer, Hyatt Hotels Corporation & ForWard Advisory Committee Vice Chair

**Leader Spotlight: LaVerne H. Council**, Chief Executive Officer, Emerald One, LLC  
Conversation with **Anna Blue**

**Pioneering Women: The Future of Tech**

**Tara Higgins**, Senior Vice President, Commercial & President, Hargrove, Encore

**Keryn McNamara**, Senior Vice President, Hotel Technology, Aimbridge Hospitality

**Kim Twiggs**, AVP, Product Development, DIRECTV

**Monica Xuereb**, Chief Commercial Officer, Loews Hotels & Co.

Moderator: **Anupama Sharma**, Senior Vice President, Technology & Delivery, Actabl

**Keynote: Out of the Game: Trafficking Survivor Talks Trauma & Redemption**

**Rebecca Bender**: Trafficking Survivor & Founder, Rebecca Bender Initiative

**10:10 – 11:00 am      Breakout Sessions**  
Vevey Ballroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

- 1. First Step ForWard: A Masterclass in Hotel Ownership**  
*Interested in ownership? Not sure where to start? Your questions, answered.*  
Vevey 1 & 2  
**Stacey Nadolny**, Senior Vice President, Wyndham Hotels & Resorts  
**Tracy L. Prigmore**, Managing Partner, TLTSolutions + She Has a Deal
- 2. Prioritizing Personal Finance, Part 1: Rising Leaders**  
*A new car? Your first house? Your finances, demystified for rising leaders.*  
Vevey 3  
**Dominique Broadway**, CEO, Finances Demystified
- 3. Playing Your Part: No Room for Trafficking Training**  
*On either side of a hotel's front desk, everyone shares the responsibility to end human trafficking.*  
Vevey 4  
**Yvonne Chen**, Director of Private Sector Engagement, ECPAT-USA  
**Eliza McCoy**, Vice President, Awareness & Prevention Programs, AHLA Foundation

**11:20 am - 12:10 pm      ForWard Breakout Sessions**  
Vevey Ballroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

- 1. Collaborative Conversations Around Workplace Culture**  
*Interactive roundtable discussions on finding harmony, pay equity, DEI and more.*  
Vevey 1 & 2  
**Laisha Dismuke**, Vice President, Human Resources and Administration, AHLA
- 2. Prioritizing Personal Finance, Part 2: Industry Veterans**  
*College tuition? Retirement on the horizon? Your finances, demystified for industry veterans.*  
Vevey 3  
**Dominique Broadway**, CEO, Finances Demystified
- 3. Driving Diversity – Hospitality Careers**  
*Industry opportunities that should be on your radar.*  
Vevey 4  
**Thomas C. Morey**, EVP & Chief Investment Officer, Park Hotels & Resorts  
**Eva Wasserman**, Senior Managing Partner, GEM Realty Capital  
Moderated by: **Ann Fastiggi**, Consultant, Spencer Stuart

**12:10 - 12:30 pm      Networking Break**  
Zurich Foyer

**12:30- 1:30 pm      ForWard Closing Luncheon: Owning Your Own Power**  
Zurich Ballroom  
**Jessica O. Matthews**, Innovator & CEO, Uncharted

**1:30 pm      Closing Remarks | Conference Concludes**