



## Board Members

as of October 10, 2025

### **CHAIR OF THE BOARD**

**Gary R. Hernbroth (BA '79)**  
Chief Motivating Officer, Training for Winners

### **PRESIDENT**

**Martha Zehnder Kaczynski (BA '03)**  
Vice President/Owner, Bavarian Inn Lodge

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

**Blair Wills (BA '02)**  
President & CEO, StepStone Hospitality

### **TREASURER**

**David DuBois (BA '78)**  
President, The DuBois Group

### **SECRETARY**

**Kevin Swanquist (BA '08)**  
Executive Recruiter, Harper Associates

### **SCHOOL DIRECTOR**

**Karthik Namasivayam**  
Director, The School of Hospitality Business

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

**Andre Alexandre (BA '00)**  
Senior Vice President, NEXDINE  
Hospitality

**Jeff Anderson (BA '90)**  
Club Manager, Chicago Club Charlevoix

**James F. Anhut (MBA '85)**  
Retired, The School of Hospitality Business

**Ed Ansbro (BA '79)**  
Managing Director, Fairwood Capital

**Richard A. Bruner (MLRHR '77)**  
Professor of Practice, The School  
of Hospitality Business

***Carol Campbell (BA '98)\****  
*Head of Consumer Experience, Ascension*

**Bradley N. Cance (BA '89)**  
GM, The Ritz-Carlton Bacara Hotel

**Marc L. Cassier, Jr. (BA '89)**  
Vice President, Private Events, City Clubs  
Division, Invited Clubs

**Joe Crean (BA '88)**  
Vice President, Marketing & Creative  
Services, AVMedia, Inc.

**Art Davis (BA '88)**  
Director of Finance, The Drake Hotel

**Brian DeMeester (BA '98)**  
Executive Housekeeper, Firekeepers Casino  
Hotel

**Hans Desai (BA '79)**  
Retired, Xanterra Parks & Resorts

**Jacob Dondzila (BA '12)**  
General Manager, Shinola Detroit

**Chris Durso (BA '82)**  
Retired

**Jesse Eisenhuth (BA '00)**  
District Sales Manager, Gordon Food Services

**Gary Finnell (BA '79)**  
Senior Director, Development SE Region,  
Hilton

**Paul Finstad (BA '13)**  
SVP, Hotel Acquisitions & Asset  
Management, Aparium Hotel Group

**Meredith Flanagan (BA '02)**  
Workplace Experience Manager, Gensler

**Jeffrey R. Gillett (BA '86)**  
Executive Vice President, The Elliot Group

**Jennifer Hajduk (BA '98)**  
Complex Director, Catering & Events  
Hilton O'Hare & Rosemont

**Joel A. Halperin (BA '07)**  
Director of Operations, Heirloom Hospitality

**Jason Hilliard (BA '95)**  
District Manager, Business Dining, Aramark

**Aaron Ide (BA '98)**  
General Manager, Hotel Drover,  
Autograph Collection

**Lauren Johnson (BA '19)**  
Travel Industry & Entertainment Sales  
Manager, Four Seasons Hotel – Boston

**Erica Kaschalk (BA '18)**  
Global Project Manager, ConferenceDirect

**Andrew J. Kern**  
Sr. Managing Director, Marcus & Millichap

**Caitlyn Kuskowski (BA '16)**  
Health & Hospitality Business Entrepreneur

**Stephen E. LaHaie (MBA '77)**  
Retired, Shaw's Crab House, LEYE

**Kurt Lefler (BA '88)**  
General Manager, Compass Group  
USA – Eurest

**Emily MacIntyre (BA '10)**  
Area Director of Sales, Graduate Hotels

**Kevin Maul (BA '96)**  
Regional Director, Revenue Strategy  
Aimbridge Hospitality

**Adam McGaughy (BA '90)**  
Senior Managing Director, JLL Hotels &  
Hospitality Group

**James McHenry (BA '14)**  
Director, Sales, Widgeteer, Inc

**Russ Melaragni (BA '79)**  
President, Melaragni Consulting Group

**Michael Moriarty (BA '11)**  
Senior Vice President, Eastdil Secured

**Jeremy J. Mourey (BA '00)**  
Distinguished Alumnus

**Jake Olsman (BA '08)**  
Real Estate Services Solutions Company

**Jason C. Rabidoux (BA '04)**  
EVP, Acquisitions & Business Development,  
Davidson Hospitality Group

**Geoff Ryskamp (BA '06)**  
Vice President, Medallia

**Grant Sabroff (BA '84)**  
Sr. Vice President of Business Development,  
Concord Hospitality

**Amy Schmidt (BA '18)**  
Manager of Feasibility & Development, Hyatt

**Caiti Smendzuik (BA '14)**  
Director of Human Resources, Mainstreet  
Ventures

**Joshua Smith (BA '00)**  
Senior Vice President, HREC Investment  
Advisors

**Mikaela Smith (BA '18)**  
Product Sales Manager – North America  
Foodservice, General Mills

**Matthew A. Sparks (BA '84)\***  
*Executive Vice President & Chief Development Officer, Hilton Grand Vacations*

**Rose Spickler (BA '12)**  
Director of Statewide Engagement, West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum

**Scott Steilen (BA '91)\***  
*President & Chief Executive Officer  
The Sea Island Company*

**Steven B. Thompson (BA '87)\***  
*Director of Catering & Events, The Waldorf Astoria Chicago*

**Alison Wallace (BA '97)**  
Director of Sales, Hilton

**Mary Winslow (BA '91)**  
Fractional Chief Marketing Officer  
Winslow Marketing Group

**Kurt B. Wisniewski (BA '94)**  
National Account Executive, Travel Starbucks Coffee Company

**Fred Wurster (BA '12)**  
Director of Food & Beverage, Hotel Greystone

**Philip Zeller (BA '96)**  
CEO/Owner/Master Trainer, Dale Carnegie Training by Ralph Nichols Group, Inc.

**HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBERS**

**Mark C. Auerbach (BA '65)**  
President, Auerbach Hotel Associates

**Neil F. Barnhart (BA '64, MBA '65)\***  
*Retired, Harrah's Entertainment*

**John A. Belden (BA '85)\***  
*Chairman/CEO, Davidson Hospitality Group*

**Kevin J. Brown (BA '77)\***  
*Executive Chairman, LEYE*

**James E. Burba (BA '77)\***  
*Co-Founder, Burba Hotel Network*

**Ronald F. Cichy (BA '72, MBA '77)\***  
*Professor Emeritus, The School of Hospitality Business*

**Richard C. Conti (MBA '76)\***  
*Sr. Managing Director, The Plasencia Group*

**Jay Dee Cutting (BA '61)\***  
*Retired, Choice Hotels International*

**John Flood (BA '80)\***  
*Partner & Managing Director, Executive Stream Solutions*

**Philip J. Hickey, Jr. (BA '77)\***  
*Chairman, Miller's Ale House Restaurants*

**Jon Kennedy (BA '73)\***  
*Senior Vice President, Grandstay Hospitality*

**John M. O'Donnell (BA '69)\***  
*GM & COO, St. Clair Golf Club*

**Zoe P. Slagle (BA '59, MA '64)**  
Retired, Slagle Consulting

**Houston Striggo (BA '75)\***  
*Chief Development Officer & Co-Founder,  
SusieCakes Bakery*

**Lou Weckstein (BA '58)\***  
*President, Windsor Capital Group, Inc*

**Peter J. Weien (BA '81)\***  
*Senior Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, Opryland Entertainment*

**Robert A. Wills (BA '70)\***  
*Retired, HDS Services/Morrison/Compass*

**Stu Wolff (BA '82)\***  
*Business Coach, Wolff Leadership*

**EMERITI CHAIRS**

**Dan E. Burdakin (BA '81)\***  
*Retired, PMG Hotels*

**Chuck Day (BA '91)**  
Retired, IHG

**Billy Downs (BA '88)**  
President, Ford's Garage

**Richard Farrar (BA '73)**  
Principal, Farrar Consulting Group

**Michael H. Getto (BA '56)\***  
*Retired*

**Marc J. Gordon (MBA '73)\***  
*Retired, IL Hotel & Lodging Association*

**John P. Hawes (BA '73)\***  
*Senior Partner, LucasGroup*

**Allegra Johnson (BA '91)**  
Managing Director, CMAA – GA Chapter

**James Kauffman (BA '75)\***  
*Retired, Marriott International*

**J. Bruce Lange (BA '78)\***  
*Retired, Westin Kierland Resort & Spa*

**Curtis Lease (BA '91)**  
Regional Vice President, Dining Services,  
American Dining Creations

**Dan H. Mathews, Jr. (BA '66)\***  
*President & CEO, VisionQuest Associates*

**Michael W. Murray (BA '81)**  
Retired, HHM

**Mary Ann Ramsey (BA '75)**  
Owner/President, Betty Maclean Travel, Inc.

**Mike Rice (BA '91)**  
Business Development Director, Hotel Contracting Services, Inc.

**Susan K. Smith (BA '59)**  
President, Food Technologies, Inc.

**John Theuer (BA '83, MBA '83)**  
Investor/Board Member, Eureka Restaurants and Bottega Louie

**Ken Weber (BA '77)**  
President, Weber's Hotel & Restaurant

**Terri Woodin (BA '88)**  
Senior National Sales Manager, Hotel Alpenrock Breckenridge

**Bill Zehnder (BA '71)\***  
*President, Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn Restaurant*

**AMBASSADOR MEMBERS**

**Marc Richard (BA '09)\***  
*Chief Executive Officer, Colledge Hunks*

**Will Wiest (BA '96)\***  
*Hotel Manager, The Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Amelia Island*

**Lauren Zehnder (BA '12)\***  
*Leadership Development Manager  
Zehnders of Frankenmuth*