



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**STRAIGHT TALK FROM HOSPITALITY LEADERS TO STUDENTS**

Showcase of the Stars™ to Visit Johnson & Wales University's Denver Campus

DENVER (January 17, 2012) – The Multicultural Foodservice & Hospitality Alliance (MFHA) brings its award-winning **Showcase of the Stars™** event to Johnson & Wales University's Denver campus on Friday, Jan. 20, 2012. This event will kick-off MFHA's 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations.

Showcase of the Stars™ is a live, interactive career exploration event that educates, motivates, and inspires students to pursue a rewarding career in the food and hospitality industry. The program aims to communicate the vital message for students to stay in school and aim high.

Participants will have the chance to interact with successful industry leaders, explore career opportunities, listen to inspiring stories from panelists, network with professionals, and gain insider knowledge about how to enter the food and hospitality industry.

The event is executed in a panel format featuring 5 to 10 diverse leaders that represent different segments of the food and hospitality industry. Panelists for this event will include Keziah Calmese, marketing director of **ARAMARK Education**; Victor Tenorio, day warehouse manager of **US Foods**; Joe Hale, café chef of **Hyatt Regency Denver Tech Center**; Alphonso Nunez, restaurant owner of **La Cueva Mexican Restaurant & Tequila Bar**; and Dana Sailer-Mielke, general manager of **Quality Inn Boulder**, a Choice Hotel. Welcoming remarks will be made by MFHA's founder and president, Gerry Fernandez.

Since 2000, Showcase of the Stars™ has reached 15,425 students from 455 schools in 26 cities, nationwide. Last year alone, MFHA hosted 9 Showcase of the Stars™ events reaching 1,466 students.

To learn more about Showcase of the Stars™ and MFHA, go to [www.mfha.net](http://www.mfha.net).

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**The Multicultural Foodservice & Hospitality Alliance (MFHA)**

Fifteen years ago, MFHA was established to act as a catalyst for change in workforce diversity. MFHA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in the food and hospitality industry that educates, advocates for, and connects its members with opportunities to build their cultural intelligence in order to effectively engage multicultural employees, customers, and communities. For more information, visit [www.mfha.net](http://www.mfha.net).

**Johnson & Wales University**

Johnson & Wales University, founded in 1914, is a nonprofit, private institution. A recognized leader in career education, we offer accredited degrees in business, hospitality, culinary arts, technology, and education. With a diverse student body of more than 16,000 graduate and undergraduate students, representing all 50 states and 89 countries, JWU prepares students for personal and professional success by integrating rigorous academic and professional skills, community leadership opportunities, and our unique career education model.