



Louisiana Restaurant Association

Press Release

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LRA-GREATER NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER NAMES 2011 CHAPTER AWARD WINNERS

METAIRIE, La. - The Louisiana Restaurant Association's (LRA) Greater New Orleans Chapter is pleased to announce its 2011 Chapter Awards recipients. The presentation was made during the Greater New Orleans Chapter's annual awards banquet at the Foundry in New Orleans, January 18, 2012.

The awards are as follows:

- **Octavio Mantilla** of Besh Restaurant Group in New Orleans, Active Member of the Year
- **Donald Link** of Link Restaurant Group in New Orleans, Restaurateur of the Year
- **Scott Lynch** of Coca-Cola in Harahan, Associate Member of the Year
- **Tommy Cvitanovich** of Drago's Seafood Restaurant in Metairie and New Orleans, Hall of Fame Inductee
- **Ewell Smith**, Distinguished Service Award, Louisiana Seafood Promotion & Marketing Board
- **Presidential Award**, Randy Stein of Mr. B's Bistro in New Orleans

Restaurateur of the Year Donald Link expressed these sentiments upon winning his award: "People may wonder why I continue to open new restaurants. I watch my managers, line cooks and dishwashers around me with so much talent and I want to give them a place to grow and have respectable careers."

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The Louisiana Restaurant Association is one of the largest business organizations in the state, representing restaurant operations and related businesses. The restaurant industry in Louisiana is one the state's largest private employer, providing jobs to 182,200 residents.