

Media Contacts:

Marc Stiles or Michael Graubard, Nyhus Communications, for Columbia Hospitality
(206) 323-3733; marc@nyhus.com or michael@nyhus.com

**Columbia Hospitality President and CEO John Oppenheimer
Named Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year 2006
Award Recipient in the Pacific Northwest**

Award Recognizes Entrepreneurial Excellence in the Services Category

SEATTLE – June 27, 2006 – Columbia Hospitality today announced that John Oppenheimer, president and CEO, received the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2006 Award in the services category in the Pacific Northwest region.

According to Ernst & Young, the award recognizes outstanding entrepreneurs who are building and leading dynamic and growing businesses. Oppenheimer was selected by an independent panel of judges, and the award was presented at the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year 2006 Pacific Northwest Awards Gala, the event's 20th anniversary, at the Westin Bellevue in Bellevue, Wash., on June 23.

“What an incredible honor this is for all of us at Columbia Hospitality,” said Oppenheimer, who is now eligible for consideration in the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year national program. Winners in several national categories, as well as the overall national Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year, will be announced at a Nov. 18 gala in Palm Springs, Calif.

“The honor of winning the regional award and the opportunity to be considered for the national award speaks volumes about the hard work that the Columbia Hospitality team does every day,” said Oppenheimer. “Our mission is to create an incredible environment for employees and exceptional experiences for our guests, while providing phenomenal results for our property owners. It's a win-win for everyone, particularly the guests who visit the properties in the Columbia Hospitality portfolio.”

Columbia Hospitality, founded in 1995, was born out of Oppenheimer's years of experience in creating and managing thousands of events around the world. Today, Columbia Hospitality employs more than 400 people throughout the Pacific Northwest and manages a growing portfolio of premier properties, including boutique hotels, secluded resorts, large and small conference centers, and award-winning restaurants and executive dining venues.

In addition, Oppenheimer is managing partner of The Seattle Hotel Group, which is returning the ultra-luxury Four Seasons Hotel to Seattle. The \$120+ million hotel and condominium development is now under construction in downtown Seattle. Columbia Hospitality is the project asset manager for The Seattle Hotel Group.

Winning the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year 2006 Pacific Northwest Award is the second major honor this year for Oppenheimer. In February, the Seattle Hotel Association

(SHA) honored Oppenheimer and his wife, Deanna, at the group's "Evening of Hope" Gala, which raised more than \$700,000 for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

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About Columbia Hospitality Inc.

Columbia Hospitality Inc., a leading hospitality management and consulting firm, was founded in 1995 by John Oppenheimer. Columbia Hospitality creates exceptional experiences for guests and employees while achieving phenomenal results for its property owners.

With expertise in luxury hotel and resort management, Columbia Hospitality expertly transforms each vision for a unique property into an enduring and profitable business.

Columbia Hospitality's premier properties include boutique hotels and secluded resorts in Washington state. The portfolio includes the following:

- The Inn at Langley on Whidbey Island
- Friday Harbor House on San Juan Island
- Lakedale Resort at Three Lakes, also on San Juan Island
- Darnell's Lake Resort on Lake Chelan

The Columbia Hospitality portfolio also includes large and small conference centers, award-winning restaurants and executive dining venues. These properties include the following:

- Bell Harbor International Conference Center in Seattle
- World Trade Center Seattle
- Odyssey Maritime Discovery Center in Seattle (catering and events only)
- Pier 30 Event Center in Seattle
- Talaris Conference Center in Seattle
- Kitsap Conference Center at Bremerton Harborside in Bremerton
- Washington Mutual Leadership Center at Cedarbrook in SeaTac
- WaMu Center Hospitality Services in Seattle

The company additionally supports an active consulting division that has worked on more than 50 hospitality development projects in five western U.S. states and Canada.

About the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards

The Entrepreneur Of The Year awards program was created and is produced by professional services firm Ernst & Young LLP. As the first award of its kind, the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year award recognizes outstanding entrepreneurs who are building and leading dynamic and growing businesses. The program honors entrepreneurs through regional, national and global award programs in more than 100 cities and 35 countries.

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