

# MFHA reception pays tribute to industry's 'Faces of Diversity'

BY CAROLYN WALKUP

CHICAGO — Attendees at the Multicultural Foodservice & Hospitality Alliance's Diverse Leadership reception celebrated and renewed their commitment to furthering opportunities for multicultural talent in the industry during the 2008 National Restaurant Association Restaurant, Hotel-Motel Show.

Speaking at the gathering, Terrian Barnes, incoming MFHA chair and global diversity and inclusion officer for Yum! Brands Inc., said, "Diverse talent is the key to our future."

She announced the start of a new strategic plan to attract more multicultural people to the industry and build a resource bank.

The plan, Vision 20-20, will kick off at the annual summer conference Aug. 10-12 at the Fairmont Chicago and will focus on professional development and training, she said.

Jolene Flory of the Elliot Leadership Institute told the group: "We want to be sure we have the leadership we need. I know times are tough, but if not us, who will stand up and be sure that a diverse workforce is an important part of our future?"

Barnes congratulated two winners of the National Restaurant Association's 2008 Faces of Diversity American Dream Award who were present: Eddie Flores Jr., president and chairman of Honolulu-based L&L Hawaiian Barbecue, and Nicole Jackson, director of training for Whataburger Restaurants in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Barnes also thanked the co-hosts and sponsors of the reception, including Johnson & Wales University, represented by John Bowen, president; the Elliot Leadership Institute; and PepsiCo Foodservice. ■

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**Right, from left: Margaret Heery of Bunn-O-Matic Corp., Rogercarole Rogers of RcRogers & Co., and Sue Vogel of the NRAEF**



**Left, from left: Clyde Gilfillan of Results Thru Strategy, Terrian Barnes of Yum! Brands and Fred LeFranc of Results Thru Strategy**

**Below: Jill Bishop of Workforce Language Services and son, Henry**



**Above, from left: Darryl Lesure of Chick-fil-A and Antonio Jackson of Whataburger**



PHOTOS: CAROLYN WALKUP



**Above: Nicole Jackson of Whataburger, left, and Eddie Flores Jr. of L&L Hawaiian Barbecue, both winners of the NRA's 2008 Faces of Diversity American Dream Award**