

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Cary Alden, Kristen Vigrass  
New Orleans Public Relations contact  
The Brandman Agency  
504.834.7517, 504.914-7517 (cell)  
212.683.2442  
[caldenpr@cox.net](mailto:caldenpr@cox.net)  
[kristen@brandmanpr.com](mailto:kristen@brandmanpr.com)

**The Windsor Court's Celebrated Restaurant Begins New Era  
As The Grill Room  
*New Chef, New Tunes, New Attitude  
Frequent Dining Program***

NEW ORLEANS (January 22, 2009) – In a city renowned for spectacular food, the Mobil Four-Star and AAA Four-Diamond restaurant in the consistently awarded Windsor Court Hotel, has long been recognized nationally as one of the best in the country including one of Zagat's Top 100 Hotel Dining Rooms. As the hotel begins 2009 the restaurant has launched exciting plans and returns to its original name "The Grill Room" with a new chef, new menu, new management, service team, a fabulous dining program, and a totally new attitude.

"The Grill Room will ignite more than just your palate- it will elevate your entire evening," said General Manager, David Teich. "We have created a room that brings together a sophisticated ambiance and style that will stir your senses on all levels."

As the new Executive Chef of the Windsor Court, Drew Dzejak comes to the city's premier hotel from one of Orient-Express' most esteemed properties, Charleston Place in Charleston, South Carolina where he has had a great career. Rising through the ranks, he most recently served as Chef de Cuisine for the hotel's award-winning Palmetto Café.

Drew began his career as part of the culinary team who earned the exclusive Mobil Five Star, AAA Five Diamond award for the Woodlands Inn located in Summerville, South Carolina after graduating from Johnson and Wales University.

"I'm very happy to join the New Orleans culinary scene," said Dzejak . "This is an amazing city and I feel very fortunate to be able to combine my previous experience and incorporate the wealth of Louisiana ingredients to offer a decidedly different menu in The Grill Room."

His new menu showcases innovative Contemporary American cuisine with Southern influences, local ingredients, and a unique concept of four culinary quadrants sure to provide an upscale dining experience– Southern, Unadulterated, Steakhouse and Indulge. Among the exceptional choices are Grilled Foie Gras & Lobster, Carpaccio of Angus Beef, Local Oyster Trio or a Panko Crusted Veal Chop impeccably served in an updated setting of relaxed elegance. The restaurant wine list, one of the best in the city, includes 50 wines

under \$50 and has been recognized by Wine Spectator Magazine with a Best of Award of Excellence. (*Menu is attached*)

Complimenting the culinary offering is newly appointed Executive Pastry Chef Shun Li. Shun also came from Charleston Place where he created fantastically innovative desserts for the Charleston Grill and Palmetto Café. Prior to joining Charleston Place, Li was Pastry Chef at the Sienna Restaurant training under nationally acclaimed Executive Chef Ken Vedrinski.

Overseeing both the culinary and service front are two talented newcomers Hector Rubio, Food & Beverage Director and Sara Kavanaugh, Restaurant Manager. “Guests of The Grill Room are in for a totally different experience,” said Rubio. “This new team is very passionate about providing innovative food in a lively unstuffy environment. This room is not just for special occasions anymore. It is the place to be in 2009.”

Adding to the new, updated contemporary décor and relaxed environment, the entertainers and piano have been moved just inside The Grill Room to elevate the evening to a soulful level. Patrons of both the restaurant and the adjoining Polo Club Lounge have a vantage point to enjoy the upbeat, live jazz featured seven nights a week.

#### Locals' Frequent Dining Program

Never before offered, frequent diners to The Grill Room will received 10% off the menu pricing when joining the program once visiting the restaurant. The program rewards includes:

After 3 visits: Tea for 2 in Le Salon

After 6 visits: Luncheon for 2 at the Windsor Court

After 9 visits: Brunch for 4 in the Grill Room

After 12 visits: Sedan pickup and drop off for your next Grill visit

After 15 visits: Complimentary 2 night stay at the Windsor Court Hotel

The Grill Room is open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner and Sunday Champagne Brunch. Live entertainment seven days a week.

For complete information on the Frequent Dining Program, and reservations please call The Grill Room at 504-522-1994

####

#### Note to Editors:

Orient-Express Hotels ([www.orient-express.com](http://www.orient-express.com)) is a hotel and travel company focused on the luxury end of the leisure market with many iconic and highly acclaimed properties. Founded in 1976 when the company acquired the Hotel Cipriani in Venice, Orient-Express

has grown to encompass 51 businesses, including 41 highly individual hotels across five continents, two restaurants, two river cruise operations and six tourist trains, including the fabled Venice Simplon-Orient-Express which operates through Europe, linking London, Paris and Venice.

Orient-Express chooses to own or part-own and manage its businesses, and continues to seek out unique properties with expansion potential and to introduce new experiences, restoring romance, glamour and style to international travel.

Owned by Orient-Express Hotels LTD since 1991, The Windsor Court Hotel is located in the New Orleans business district, which is within easy access of the French Quarter, and the boutiques of Royal Street. The hotel inaugurated four floors of Club Level accommodation in February 2007. Ranging in size from 600 to 850 square foot, Club Level accommodation features marble bathrooms, Italian bed linen, Bose music systems, as well as access to the Club Floor Lounge, which has outdoor terraces offering panoramic views of the Mississippi River and an indoor drawing room with wood flooring, open fireplace and grand piano.

Considered the premier hotel in New Orleans, the 322 room Windsor Court has been consistently recognized as the Number 1 hotel in New Orleans in the 2009 Zagat Readers' Survey, one of the "Top Hotels" in the country by Travel + Leisure and is ranked on the coveted Condé Nast Traveler "Gold List" and was *named best in the city by Andrew Harper's Hideaway report. Additional information can be found at [www.windsorcourthotel.com](http://www.windsorcourthotel.com).*

###