

**PUNTACANA RESORT & CLUB WINS CONDÉ NAST TRAVELER
2009 WORLD SAVERS AWARD FOR EDUCATION PROGRAMS**
Resort Community Honored as Travel Industry Leader in Social Responsibility

NEW YORK, NY (September 22, 2009)—*Condé Nast Traveler* has named PUNTACANA Resort & Club as a winner of the magazine's third annual World Savers Awards, honoring travel companies from around the world for their leadership in social responsibility. PUNTACANA Resort & Club, located in the Dominican Republic, is the recipient of the 2009 award in the Education Programs category for its contributions to education in the community, including the development of local public and private schools to accommodate the resorts' employees and their children.

"We are sincerely honored to be recognized by *Condé Nast Traveler* for our work in this field," said Frank R. Rainieri, Chairman of Grupo PUNTACANA, owners and operators of the resort community. "The resort was created with a vision for social and environmental sustainability and continues its commitment to balancing economic growth with the health and well-being of the local community and environment, of which the education is a crucial part."

PUNTACANA Resort & Club has made a deep and lasting commitment to improving educational opportunities in the Punta Cana region of the Dominican Republic through the building and funding of the PUNTACANA International School and the Ann and Ted Kheel Polytechnic School.

The PUNTACANA International School was built in 2000 to provide quality, bilingual education to students of the growing, vibrant Punta Cana community. With more than 400 students enrolled, and representing over 20 nationalities, the private school is dedicated to a hands-on approach to learning and delivers a diverse educational experience.

Founded in 2004, the Ann and Ted Kheel Polytechnic School is the only public high school within 50 miles of the Punta Cana International Airport; it provides a high-quality secondary education, with an emphasis on technical skills, to 300 students annually from the nearby towns of Verón, Bávaro, Cortecito and Cabeza de Toro. The school is dedicated to Theodore W. Kheel, co-founder of Grupo PUNTACANA, and his late wife, Mrs. Ann S. Kheel, who served on numerous educational commissions and was instrumental in the civil rights movement in the United States.

"Despite these challenging economic times, corporate social responsibility is as important as ever," said *Condé Nast Traveler* Editor-in-Chief Klara Glowczewska. "The travel industry is on track to generate \$7.3 trillion in revenue this year -- a number that represents an enormous opportunity improve our planet, and our World Savers Awards recognize those companies turning that potential into a reality."

The *Condé Nast Traveler* World Savers Awards recognize leadership in social responsibility across five key areas: Poverty Alleviation, Cultural and/or Environmental Preservation, Education Programs, Wildlife Conservation and Health Initiatives. The 2009 World Savers Awards are featured in the September issue of the magazine, on newsstands now. World Savers Awards winners were recognized at a ceremony on September 21 at the annual *Condé Nast Traveler* World Savers Congress in New York City.

About PUNTACANA Resort & Club

The development of Grupo PUNTACANA dates back to 1969 when Dominican businessman and hotelier Frank R. Rainieri and Theodore W. Kheel, the prominent New York attorney and labor mediator, created a partnership to construct a resort and real estate community that respects the natural habitat of Punta Cana while offering a world-class vacation experience. Maintaining a dedication to sustainable tourism, PUNTACANA Resort & Club has since grown to encompass over 26 square miles and now includes Tortuga Bay; Six Senses Spa; the PUNTACANA Ecological Foundation; four residential communities (Corales, Hacienda, Marina and Arrecife); a full-service marina; nine restaurants; a shopping village; two 18-hole golf courses; and Punta Cana International Airport, a modern facility that incorporates innovative and eco-friendly design. In 1997, Julio Iglesias and Oscar de la Renta joined the Group as co-investors and have made PUNTACANA Resort & Club their home. Currently, Punta Cana is the most highly visited Caribbean destination and is easily accessible from all over the globe.

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