



The Grand Awards Scholarships to Exceptional Students

Ho Tram, Vietnam, 9 October 2015: The Grand Ho Tram Strip, Asia's only beachfront integrated resort, today announced the donation of three full scholarships to the Vung Tau Tourism Vocational College. The scholarships were awarded to three exceptional young hospitality students from the local province.

"The Grand has long partnered with the Vung Tau Tourism Vocational College, speaking at career days, conducting guest lectures for students, arranging hotel tours for classes, conducting recruitment drives here and so forth. As such, it is an honor to be able to announce today that we are going one step further and awarding these full-ride scholarships to help them kickstart their careers." said Ho Tram Strip Executive Chairman Mr. Michael E. Kelly.

"We have over 90 VTTVC alumni and current students on our team at the Ho Tram Strip, and we certainly hope that these three students make the most of this opportunity, and grow to become dynamic leaders in our field, and graduate to join our team one day in future. Longer term we know that the managers of tomorrow will come from the students of today and we are delighted to support them as they embark on their career journey." Mr Kelly continued.

The three recipients of these scholarships are Nguyen Thi Minh Suong, Dang Thi Thu Hien and Tran Minh Trung.

Speaking from the ceremony, Dang Thi Thu Hien, Major: hospitality management, 2nd year student said: "It is such an honor to be selected as one of the scholarship recipients. The scholarship helps me to cover one full year tuition fee and will help me achieve my long term career dream is to be able to open my own restaurant. I am deeply grateful for this support from the Ho Tram Strip team, and I hope that someday I can work in this resort to learn from the team there."

The 541 room Grand Ho Tram Strip opened in 2013, and became the first international standard integrated resort to open its doors in Vietnam. It - along with adjacent golf course The Bluffs - currently employs around 1600 people, and this is set to expand when The Grand inaugurates its second tower in 2016, bringing the total number of rooms to 1100. Later phases of the Ho Tram Strip will see a second integrated resort and three additional five star resorts added to the 2.2 kilometer shoreline that the Strip occupies.

According to Mr. Kelly, the Vung Tau Tourism Vocational College plays an important role in addressing a chronic skills shortage in Vietnam's hospitality and tourism sectors, notably in the five star area.

He commented: "A 2014 study of our industry here in Vietnam saw that of the one million people employed nationwide in the industry, less than one in five had had formal training in tourism and hospitality. With the aggressive expansion plans we have at the Ho Tram Strip, we need to continually work with the VTTVC to ensure our growing needs for tourism professionals here in Ba Ria Vung Tau is always met. We already partner with the College to provide onsite

training to our current workforce and are delighted to continue this relationship through providing material support to talented students."

About The Grand Ho Tram Strip

The Ho Tram Strip is a group of integrated resorts and residential developments located on more than 400 acres of land with two kilometers of pristine beach in Ho Tram, Vietnam. An Investment Certificate listed by the Government of Vietnam has approved the development, which has an investment commitment of US\$4 billion of which the already completed phase I has seen an investment of over US\$550 million. Work on phase II is underway and future phases will see an additional three five-star resorts added to the 2.2 kilometer seaside strip.

Focusing on providing a personalized blend of excitement and relaxation, the Ho Tram Strip features something for everyone, from lavish entertainment to world-class golfing and exceptional beach recreational facilities. The Strip is located just a two hour scenic and relaxed drive from Ho Chi Minh City.

The first phase of its development - The Grand Ho Tram Strip - opened its doors in July 2013 and includes a 541 room five-star hotel, a world-class entertainment facility, nine food and beverage venues, high-tech meeting spaces including a 1,500 person capacity Grand Ballroom, a luxurious spa, an exclusive VIP area and a variety of beach-front recreation activities. Recognition for the property flowed quickly in, and in 2015 it was awarded both 'Luxury Hotel and Spa of the Year - Vietnam' in Luxury Travel Guide Awards for 2015, and Best Luxury Hotel 2015 in Vietnam in the Business Destination Travel Awards.

Its adjacent award-winning golf course – The Bluffs Ho Tram Strip - was designed by Greg Norman and opened in 2014. Future developments at Ho Tram will include a second tower and a residential villa development, a second integrated resort which will include gaming amenities and three additional five star resorts.

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