

For Immediate Release

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JW Marriott Indianapolis Named 2013 Gold Key Award Recipient and 2013 Best of the MidAmerica

The Gold Key Award is presented by Meetings & Conventions Magazine and Best of MidAmerica is presented by Meetings Focus Magazine

Indianapolis, IN – July 29, 2013 – The JW Marriott Indianapolis and White Lodging Services are excited to announce the Indianapolis hotel has been named a Gold Key Award Winner by *Meetings & Conventions* magazine for 2013 and named Best of the MidAmerica by *Meetings Focus* magazine for 2013.

"We have a lot to be proud of by earning this award," said Scott Blalock, general manager at the JW Marriott Indianapolis. "It is clear evidence from our meeting and event planning customers that our hotel is working hard towards our vision to become the best convention hotel in the country. I am so proud of our entire team and the collective effort everyone takes to be the best every day."

For over 30 years, The Gold Key Award has been given to the world's finest meeting properties, making the JW Marriott Indianapolis one of them. All winners of this award of excellence were nominated and selected by the readers of *Meeting & Conventions*, who based their votes on the overall professionalism and quality of the property.

The winning hotels and resorts will also be featured in *Meetings & Conventions'* Gold Awards issue published in November 2013.

The Best of the MidAmerica Award is chosen by the readers of *Meeting Focus* and is based on the following criteria: quality of the meeting space; guest rooms; guest services and amenities; food and beverage service; high-tech services and equipment; recreational facilities and activities; the efficiency and helpfulness of staff, and overall value and experience.

"We are extremely proud to be selected by meeting planners for these distinctive awards. It validates the hard work and vision our team has daily to be the best," said Anne Dunlavy, director of sales & marketing at the hotel.

The winning hotels and resorts will also be featured in the September 2013 issue of Meetings Focus.

About JW Marriott Indianapolis

The JW Marriott Indianapolis opened in February 2011. The hotel offers 1,005 guest rooms in a 33-story tower, and 103,000 square feet of onsite function space. The hotel is connected by a sky bridge to the Indiana Convention Center and has three onsite, distinctive dining options, a full-service Starbucks, a state-of-the-art fitness center, an indoor pool and a multi-million dollar public art plaza. The JW Marriott Indianapolis has also been recognized by the America's Lodging Investment Summit as the "Development of the Year" for 2011, received Marriott International's "Full Service Opening of the Year" and was named as one of Fox News' Top 10 New Hotels. For more information on the hotel, or to book a room, visit www.jwindy.com and follow the hotel on Twitter at @JWMarriottIndy and on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/JWMarriottIndianapolis.

About JW Marriott

JW Marriott is part of Marriott International's luxury portfolio and consists of beautiful properties in gateway cities and distinctive resort locations around the world. These elegant hotels cater to today's sophisticated, self-assured travelers, offering them the quiet luxury they seek in a warmly authentic, relaxed atmosphere lacking in pretense. JW Marriott properties artfully provide highly crafted, anticipatory experiences that are reflective of their locale so that their guests have the time to focus on what is most important to them. Currently, there are 57 JW Marriott hotels in 23 countries; by 2015 the portfolio is expected to encompass 79 properties in 28 countries. www.marriott.com/jw-marriott/travel.mi

About White Lodging Services

White Lodging Services was established in 1985 and is headquartered in Merrillville, Ind. White Lodging is a fully integrated hotel ownership, development and operations company – a recognized leader that has defined and cultivated the ability to achieve consistent, sustainable growth among mid-to large-scale hotels across the country. Its current portfolio consists of more than 168 hotels in 21 states and encompasses representation of the

following leading brands: Preferred Hotels, Marriott International, Inc., Hilton Worldwide, Hyatt Global, Starwood Hotels and Resorts, InterContinental Hotel Group and Carlson Hotels Worldwide. For more information about White Lodging, please visit www.whitelodging.com.

Visit <u>Marriott International, Inc.</u> (NYSE: MAR) for company information. For more information or reservations, please visit our web site at <u>www.marriott.com</u>, and for the latest company news, visit <u>www.marriottnewscenter.com</u>.

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