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KIMPTON HOTELS' GREEN INITIATIVES EARN GOVERNOR'S ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC LEADERSHIP AWARD

California EPA Recognizes Pioneering Company's Earth-Friendly Accomplishments

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., December 17, 2007— Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants garnered California's most prestigious ecological honor given by the state's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): the Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award (GEELA), given to organizations for their notable, voluntary contributions to conserving California's precious resources. The GEELA award recognizes Kimpton's pioneering and steadfast green commitment, from its initial environmental efforts in 1985 to the formalization of its innovative EarthCare program in 2005.

"Supporting a sustainable world has long been a core, guiding principle behind our business practices," said Niki Leondakis, chief operating officer, Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants. "As environmental awareness is increasingly spreading throughout the country, this award acknowledges the many ways that organizations have the power to impact change for the future of our planet."

Kimpton's EarthCare program sets standards across all Kimpton properties, from the first companywide in-room recycling program to the introduction of organic foods and beverages into hotel mini bars. More than 40 environmentally-friendly practices encourage the preservation of water, land, air, and energy. These efforts have led to significant accomplishments including more than 962,000 pounds of cardboard recycled, nearly 50,000 gallons of cleaning chemicals replaced with non-toxic alternatives, and more than 253 trees saved using recycled paper in one year in California alone. Additionally, Kimpton partners with national non-profit The Trust for Public Land to help create and preserve parks in cities across America. Widely known for its pioneering eco actions, in 2006, Kimpton garnered the National GeoTourism Award from *National Geographic Traveler* and the Travel Industry Association of America.

The GEELA awards were established in 1993. This year's recipients were selected by a panel of evaluators and the Secretaries of the California Environmental Protection Agency, the

Resources Agency, Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, the Department of Food and Agriculture, the State and Consumer Services Agency, and the Governor's Office.

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ABOUT KIMPTON

San Francisco-based Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants is the first and leading collection of boutique hotels throughout the United States and Canada. Founded by Bill Kimpton in 1981, privately held Kimpton Hotels offers services and design elements focused on care, comfort, style, flavor and fun. Every Kimpton hotel reflects the energy, personality and pulse of its location, history and architectural style. Each property features personalized guest services, comforting in-room amenities, specialty rooms and suites, and provides a range of exciting culinary experiences through affiliated top-rated destination chef-driven restaurants. Kimpton takes pride in its commitment to social responsibility and leads the hospitality industry in ecological practices through its innovative EarthCare programs. In addition, Kimpton demonstrates a unique dedication to its female guests with the Women InTouch program, offering comfortable and safe environments, in-room fitness and wellness options as well as the company's unique "Forgot It, We've Got It" honor bar, providing essentials that women travelers may have forgotten at home. Among the company's newest properties are the Hotel Palomar Arlington at Waterview, which opened in November 2007. Additional projects are underway in Los Angeles, New York, Florida, Philadelphia and Virginia. For more information, please visit www.KimptonHotels.com or call 1-800-KIMPTON.