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**HILTON GARDEN INN LOUISVILLE DOWNTOWN HOTEL RECEIVES TAG APPROVED STATUS**

**Louisville, KY** – February 8, 2016 – The Hilton Garden Inn Louisville Downtown hotel announced today that it has recently received TAG Approved® status, qualifying the property as a gay friendly hotel that meets six LGBT welcoming qualifications. As one of only a handful of TAG approved hotels in Louisville, Hilton Garden Inn Louisville Downtown had to meet a number of criteria to achieve this status, including:

- Enforcing non-discriminatory policies including sexual orientation;
- Treating heterosexual and domestic partners equally in personnel policies;
- Providing LGBT diversity and sensitivity training for employees;
- Empowering customers and employees to be “watchdogs” of its gay and lesbian business practices;
- Giving back to their community; and
- Employing staff who reflect the diversity of their community.

Orbitz, a leading global online travel company, recently named Louisville one of the top ten hottest gay destinations for 2016 stating, “Southern hospitality rules in Louisville.”

“Louisville boasts a range of attractions, events and shows that appeal to all types of travelers, making it a diverse and welcoming destination that we are proud to be a part of,” said John Fields, General Manager at the Hilton Garden Inn Louisville Downtown. “Our TAG Approved® status is reflective not only of the welcoming environment we create for our guests, but also speaks to our business practices and strong support of the LGBT community.”

Last year, Hilton Garden Inn Louisville Downtown partnered with The Louisville Convention and Visitors Bureau on the “Say I Do in Lou” contest by providing the winning couple an all expense paid wedding on the rooftop of the hotel during Louisville Pride Festival.

Located in the heart of downtown Louisville, the Hilton Garden Inn Louisville Downtown hotel is the only downtown venue with an outdoor + indoor rooftop restaurant and bar, 8UP. Within walking distance to over 50 Louisville restaurants, the hotel is just steps away from the dining and entertainment on 4th Street Live!, Mercury Ballroom, Louisville Palace and the Kentucky International Convention Center. For more information on the hotel, or to book a stay,

visit <http://hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com/en/hotels/kentucky/hilton-garden-inn-louisville-downtown-SDFLDGI/index.html>.

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