

# media release

Thursday September 29, 2016

## The Star shines at Queensland Awards for Excellence



Jupiters Gold Coast



Treasury Casino & Hotel

The Star Entertainment Group is the toast of the State after taking out the trifecta at the hugely respected Queensland Hotels Association Awards for Excellence, held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre overnight, Wednesday September 28.

The prominent awards are yet another superb accomplishment for the hotel, dining and entertainment group which continues to invest in its Jupiters Gold Coast and Treasury Casino & Hotel Brisbane properties.

The QHA Awards recognised The Star Entertainment Group for its *Outstanding Achievement in Training*, while Jupiters' Garden Kitchen & Bar was awarded *Best Restaurant – Accommodation Hotels* and Treasury's Jessie Dungca claimed the coveted award for *Guest Services Employee of the Year*.

Managing Director Queensland Geoff Hogg said the achievements were well-deserved recognition for a hard-working team who continue to impress both industry peers and guests with their attention to detail and dedication to providing world-class experiences.

"To have our two Queensland properties named as finalists in five categories was an honour, but to be awarded wins in three of those five is an astounding achievement for the team," Mr Hogg said.

"We've placed significant investment into developing a highly-skilled workforce to support the growth of our properties and new hotels, restaurants, bars, retail, entertainment, and public event spaces. These accolades are a credit to our phenomenal team whose passion and dedication has assisted in setting new standards of excellence and services for millions of guests each year."

Jupiters' newest indoor/outdoor dining venue, Garden Kitchen & Bar was celebrated as the *Best Restaurant – Accommodation Hotels*, having cemented its place as one of the Gold Coast's most popular destinations since opening earlier this year.

Anchored in a lush garden setting, Garden Kitchen & Bar responds beautifully to its natural surroundings, combining local expertise and a clearly articulated conceptual vision to evoke a sense of place and belonging.

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Boasting an impressive modern fit-out, the striking restaurant features a generous dining and lavish bar area bathed in natural light, an open kitchen equipped with Chef's Rotisserie, an abundance of cascading greenery and a spacious outdoor deck overlooking the property's lush tropical gardens.

Garden Kitchen & Bar showcases some of the freshest seasonal produce and very best in design, incorporating an abundance of light-filled space and elegant simplicity that allows guests to truly embrace the Gold Coast lifestyle.

Treasury's Jessie Dungca was awarded *Guest Services Employee of the Year*, his attitude, contagious enthusiasm for work and life, and exemplary quality of character proving that a single ripple can indeed start a wave.

Having moved to Australia with his wife and three children in 2012, the former accountant from Papua New Guinea undertook a Certificate III in Housekeeping before applying for a vacancy at Treasury where he put theory into practice.

Jessie's outstanding performance contributions as Room Attendant saw the overall standard of the housekeeping division soar to new heights and earned him a place in The Star Entertainment Group's The START Program – a 12-month program which provides high-performing Team Members the opportunity to learn the everyday aspects of working in a hotel and casino while also developing capabilities as a future leader. In the latter half of 2016, Jessie will specialise in his preferred area of interest, Hotel Concierge.

The Queensland Hotels Association Awards for Excellence recognise the top achievers in the State's Hospitality industry, with Jupiters and Treasury's outstanding success topping off a record start to the financial year for The Star Entertainment Group.

When complete, the \$345 million redevelopment of Jupiters Gold Coast – which includes award-winning restaurants Kiyomi, Cucina Vivo, and Garden Kitchen & Bar – will see the refurbishment of the property's almost 600 hotel rooms, a new luxury six-star all-suite tower and an array of contemporary restaurants and bars.

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