Media Inquiries: Amy Kerr MPA Digital (757) 645-3113 amy@mpa.digital



BUCUTI & TARA BEACH RESORT'S OWN NAMED SUSTAINABLE PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

EAGLE BEACH, Aruba – Dec. 18, 2018 – Capping a year of monumental sustainability achievements, Nathaly Stanley of <u>Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort</u> has been named the Sustainability Professional of the Year by the Aruba Hospitality and Tourism Association (AHATA). Joining Stanley in the spotlight are Bucuti associates who also received recognition for being among Aruba's top hospitality professionals.

Fresh off the news of Bucuti & Tara becoming the <u>first hotel in</u> the <u>Caribbean to achieve carbon neutrality</u>, Stanley was recognized for her steadfast contributions to help lead the resort to the pinnacle certification. She was key to guiding Bucuti & Tara through the transformation of being an award-winning green hotel to a carbon neutral hotel with a near perfect audit score.

Stanley was instrumental in Bucuti & Tara achieving an almost perfect score of 97/100 during its annual Green Globe audit and recertification resulting in the resort continuing its reign as the World's Most Sustainable Hotel/Resort. She helped reduce Bucuti & Tara's waste output by 61% resulting in reducing carbon



emissions and ameliorating the waste management for Aruba. Additionally, Stanley undertook a lead position in Bucuti & Tara's upgrades of the ISO standards from 2008 to 2015 for both 14001 and 9001.

The Aruban native joined Bucuti & Tara a graduate of the Universidad di Aruba and the University of Central Florida. Without hesitation, she took over the resort's extensive and award-winning Green Program with incredible success. Stanley shares are vast knowledge as an active member of AHATA's Environmental Committee, volunteers with the island's turtle conservation program TurtugAruba, and assists with The Donkey Sanctuary. She serves as a board member of Caribbean Alliance for Sustainable Tourism, known as CAST.

Bucuti & Tara's Executive Manager of Housekeeping Mickael Mesker was named Manager of the Year. His expertise in handling one of hospitality's most crucial departments, firm yet friendly leadership and excellent guest satisfaction scores have help drive Bucuti & Tara's success.

Bucuti & Tara also had two AHATA finalists. Mitchell Goeldjar, manager of reservations, was named a finalist as the island's Young Tourism Professional of the Year. His keenness for details, communication and maximizing

reservations has led to Bucuti & Tara achieving a coveted 95 percent year-round occupancy. Vincent Croes, server at Elements restaurant, was a finalist for Employee of the Year. Croes' popularity with guests for his excellent and friendly service has made him the resort's top scorer on TripAdvisor.

"We are honored to have our Aruba community recognize these talented Bucuti associates," says Ewald Biemans, owner/CEO of Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort. "Our hospitality professionals demonstrate their commitment to our guests everyday through their desire to provide a memorable, well-balanced vacation and their quest to make a difference in the world."

To learn more, visit Bucuti.com.

About Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort

Declared the first CarbonNeutral® hotel in the Caribbean in August 2018 and the No. 1 Hotel for Romance in the Caribbean for 2018 by guest-driven TripAdvisor, Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort is Aruba's premier adults-only boutique resort. Led by celebrated hotelier and environmentalist, Ewald Biemans, named by Caribbean Journal as the 2017 Caribbean Hotelier of the Year, the resort is nestled on the powdery white sands of Eagle Beach, home to protected sea turtles and named one of the "Dream Beaches of the World." Bucuti offers 104 well-appointed guestrooms, suites and penthouses; sunbeds and shade for every guest; fresh water infinity pool; spa; WiFi; and complimentary iPad with Skype for use during stay. Award-winning healthy dining is enjoyed at oceanfront Elements, Tara Lounge and private beach dining. Reserved exclusively for guests and their friends, the open-air SandBar on the beach offers top-shelf cocktails and live music daily. The resort is TAG Approved® as a LGBTQ-friendly hotel. Bucuti, a worldwide sustainable tourism leader, holds eco-certifications of LEED Silver, Green Globe Platinum, ISO 14001 and Travelife Gold and was named the World's Most Sustainable Hotel/Resort in 2016 by Green Globe.

###