



CONTACT: Gina Stouffer/Lindsay Bennett  
LOU HAMMOND & ASSOCIATES  
561-655-3836  
ginag@lhammond.com  
lindsayb@lhammond.com  
Visit [www.louhammond.com](http://www.louhammond.com)  
[www.twitter.com/louhammondpr](http://www.twitter.com/louhammondpr)

**MARENAS RESORT PARTNERS WITH FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY'S  
KOVENS CONFERENCE CENTER  
TO OFFER COMPLETE MEETING PACKAGE**

SUNNY ISLES BEACH, FL, March 22, 2010 – Marenas Resort, a 159-suite oceanfront property conveniently located between Miami International Airport and Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport, has announced an exclusive partnership with Kovens Conference Center to provide 31,000 square feet of meeting space and state-of-the-art technological capabilities.

“With the addition of Kovens Conference Center to our collection of amenities on property, we now offer groups the best of both worlds – a boutique experience with exceptional meeting facilities,” states Managing Director Roy Young.

Overlooking Biscayne Bay, Kovens Conference Center is located within four miles of the resort at Florida International University, known for its nationally ranked School of Hospitality and Tourism Management. As a member of the International Association of Conference Centers (IACC), Kovens adheres to the highest standards of meeting excellence and prides itself on providing exceptional customer service and personal attention.

Accommodating groups up to 400 attendees, Kovens offers a 5,000 square foot Bayview Ballroom and Terrace. It features an adjoining full-service banquet kitchen, power-controlled adjustable shades, large electronic recess screens and two digital 16-channel audio mixing consoles.

Comprehensive audiovisual service includes CTS certified technicians, videoconferencing and webcast capabilities, audio recording, high-speed wireless Internet and more.

Kovens Center’s two auditoriums seating 66 people each are ideal for educational or training seminars and feature ceiling-mounted microphones, LCD projectors, computers and document cameras for 3-D imaging of objects. For breakout sessions, small meeting rooms are fitted with LCD video monitors, and Ethernet outlets for high-speed Internet access. Computer training can take place in the center’s labs, complete with an instructor’s workstation and LCD projector. Meeting attendees who need to check e-mails between sessions can take advantage of Kovens’ wireless internet service or utilize its full-service business center located in the lobby.

-more-

## MARENAS RESORT – 2

In addition to corporate functions, Kovens Conference Center also makes a grand setting for galas, social events and weddings with gourmet cuisine served by white-gloved staff.

“The combination of holding our SCADA Security Scientific Symposium meeting at Kovens Center and Marenas Resort is a perfect arrangement,” states Dale Peterson with Digital Bond, Inc. “The hotel has such a peaceful and welcoming vibe. We are returning next year and I have already heard that more spouses and families will be joining the fun.”

Blending the best of South Florida’s “Riviera Coast” with an international style, Marenas Resort is also ideal for meeting attendees who wish to bring their families. Its spacious one and two-bedroom suites range from 700 to 1100 square feet and feature fully-equipped gourmet kitchens, separate living areas and washer and dryer units. The property also offers al fresco dining overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, a beach club with sandcastle competitions and is near many of the region’s kid-friendly attractions.

Marenas Resort offers complete meetings packages that include complimentary transfer service between the property and Kovens Conference Center. For more information, please contact Marenas Resort at (877) 250-4678. A Request for Proposal is available at

[www.marenasresortmiami.com/Meetings-Events/RFP.asp](http://www.marenasresortmiami.com/Meetings-Events/RFP.asp)

### ***About Marenas Resort***

Situated on a 2.5 mile stretch of beach in Sunny Isles Beach, a barrier island just north of Miami, Marenas Resort blends the best of South Florida’s “Riviera Coast” with an international style. Marenas Resort’s name draws from its location, evoking the sea and the sand ~ mar y arenas ~ in Spanish. A member of Preferred Hotels & Resorts and operated by Benchmark Hospitality International, the 26-story stainless steel and glass hotel tower features 159 one- and two-bedroom suites, each with fully equipped gourmet kitchens and spacious contemporary interiors. Amenities include a Mediterranean-inspired restaurant, oceanside pool, beach club, luxurious spa, health club and elegant meeting space. For reservations, please call a travel agent professional or 1-877-858-2305. Visit [www.marenasresortmiami.com](http://www.marenasresortmiami.com).

### ***About Preferred Hotel Group™***

Celebrating 41 years of excellence, Preferred Hotel Group is a leading global provider of high-performance sales, marketing and technology support to individually owned and operated hotels and resorts, with over 700 members in over 75 countries. Established in 1968, Preferred Hotel Group today is comprised of five distinct brands, including Preferred Hotels® & Resorts ([www.PreferredHotels.com](http://www.PreferredHotels.com)). For more information, please visit [www.PreferredHotelGroup.com](http://www.PreferredHotelGroup.com).

### ***About Benchmark Hospitality International***

Benchmark Hospitality International is a leader in the management and marketing of resorts, conference centers, hotels, and Personal Luxury Hotels™. The independent company, launched in 1980, is a founding member of the International Association of Conference Centers. Benchmark Hospitality is a worldwide organization operating properties in major metropolitan and resort destinations. Benchmark's international headquarters is located in The Woodlands, Texas, near Houston. The company's northeast regional office is in New Jersey, with international offices in Tokyo, Japan, and Santiago, Chile. For the location of Benchmark's properties and additional information, visit [www.benchmarkhospitality.com](http://www.benchmarkhospitality.com).