



CONTACT:
Laura Van Sciver
Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa
(808) 237-6222
laura.vansciver@hyatt.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW \$2 MILLION KOU BALLROOM OPENS IN SEPTEMBER

Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach offers new space for a new era in event planning

Honolulu – June 25, 2013 Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa announces the beginning of a new event planning era with the launch of the \$2 million Kou ('kō) Ballroom located on the second floor of the Diamond Head Tower. Opening in September, the area features modern technological features, soft coral and stone colors, and 3,087 square feet of function space and maximum capacity of 617. To accompany the new ballroom and meet growing event planner expectations, Executive Chef Sven Ullrich has created a new sustainable menu featuring all local meats, fish, cheeses, vegetables, and fruits.

“Kou means ‘yours’ in Hawaiian. The Kou Ballroom is intended to make guests feel like the space is truly their own during the time they spend in it,” notes Catherine Johns, Director of Catering and Convention Services for Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach. “Our mission is to provide event planners and attendees with a sense of authentic urban aloha. We’ve created a ‘home away from home’ for them to enjoy, complete with state of the art technology, exquisite design, as well as a more organic menu.”

“The farm to table movement has had a big influence on millions, and Hyatt has come out in support of making sustainable choices with open arms,” adds Ullrich, “We also want to avoid waste as many in the world are also starting to recognize. Our banquet menu, like our restaurants, is about portion control but we’ve also taken another step by creating a live plate-up system to maintain the freshness of organic restaurant quality foods. Nothing will be pre-plated. The menu that we have designed will reflect the home inspired feeling of Kou mixed with a sense of belonging to a global effort to do more for our world.”

Kou was the first flower used to string lei with modern needle and thread, signifying the pulling of ancient and modern times together to make what we now know as modern urban Hawaiian culture. The name is very fitting as the room brings a modern element to the second floor of Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa. In 2011 the hotel modernized all of the third floor public areas to include the addition of SHOR, SWIM, and Japengo. This addition is an expression of a continued investment in the property and the community. Kou Ballroom includes a reception room, board room, art wall, and meeting room. For more information about Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa, please visit waikiki.hyatt.com.

About Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa

Balanced between the idyllic beauty of the legendary Waikiki Beach and the dynamic city center, Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa is a vibrant destination combining relaxation and adventure with true Hawaiian hospitality. Each of the 1,230 guestrooms, including 19 suites, offers Hawaiian elegance and private lanai with panoramic beach, mountain, and city views. With an unrivaled location just steps from world-famous waves, the resort affords effortless exploration of the island's attractions, from Diamond Head Crater, Honolulu Zoo, and Waikiki Aquarium, to world-class shopping, sophisticated dining and expert surfing lessons. Offering endless amenities including luxurious treatments at the 10,000 square foot Na Ho'ola Spa, StayFit Fitness Center, freshwater swimming pool overlooking Waikiki Beach, fresh regional seafood dishes with upscale American cuisine at Shor American Seafood Restaurant, Pacific Rim at Japengo, tropical cocktails at SWIM, and more than 60 boutiques on site. Hyatt Regency Waikiki promises Hawaiian-style excitement paired with the warmth of authentic Aloha spirit.

For more information regarding Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa, please contact the resort by phone at (808) 923-1234, or visit the resort website at: waikiki.hyatt.com.

###