



Willard InterContinental Celebrates 25th Re-Opening Anniversary with 1986-Themed Specials

Washington DC, August 31, 2011 -- On September 20, the Willard InterContinental celebrates the 25th anniversary of its re-opening. An American landmark, D.C.'s Willard Hotel was closed and nearly demolished in 1968. Instead, due to the foresight of the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation, project partners - Oliver Carr Company, Stuart S. Golding Company, and InterContinental Hotels Group, the architectural and historic gem of hospitality was restored to its turn-of-the-century splendor and re-opened in 1986. An American institution, the Willard has hosted nearly every U.S. president since 1853. It was at the Willard that Julia Ward Howe wrote the Battle Hymn of the Republic, where President Abraham Lincoln stayed prior to his inauguration, where President Ulysses S. Grant popularized the term "Lobbyist," and where Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King finished his renowned "I Have a Dream" speech.

To mark the occasion, the hotel is offering a variety of 25-year themed specials. Throughout the month of September, the Round Robin and Scotch Bar will offer a "Silver Jubilee Mint Julep" featuring 25-year Bourbon and the "Willard" cocktail which includes Apricot and Peach brandy, Gin and lime juice, each for \$8.60. On the anniversary date of September 20, twenty-five year old Scotch tastings starting at \$19.86 will be offered at the Round Robin and Scotch Bar, and a three-course menu for lunch and dinner at Café du Parc will be available for \$19.86. Diners will receive a commemorative menu and from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., a guitarist will play hits from the 1980's at the restaurant. Also from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., complimentary appetizers will be served in the hotel lobby as a pianist plays 80's hits. Guests can toast the Willard with Dom Perignon available by the glass for \$19.86, in the Round Robin and hotel lobby bars.

Also, in honor of the occasion and in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War, the hotel will debut its new four-color history brochure created by the research and design team of the Willard History Gallery, Prof. Cindy Gueli and designer Jeanne Krohn.

Guests staying at the hotel on the night of September 20, will receive a variety of anniversary-themed amenities.