



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Christina Thigpen  
The Ballantyne Hotel & Lodge  
704-248-2010  
[cthagpen@bissellcompanies.com](mailto:cthagpen@bissellcompanies.com)

### **THE BALLANTYNE ANNOUNCES CULINARY TEAM UPDATES**

CHARLOTTE, NC (July 26, 2016) – [The Ballantyne, a Luxury Collection Hotel, Charlotte](#) is pleased to share staffing updates within its culinary team, bringing a fresh perspective to the overall dining experience at the hotel. David Moore has been promoted to executive sous chef at The Ballantyne, and Garrett Merck has returned to the property as executive banquet chef. Chris Shatto has joined the team as director of outlets. At [Gallery Restaurant](#), the hotel's signature dining venue, Matt Tilman has been promoted to chef de cuisine, and Alice Danter has been named sous chef.

“David, Garrett, Chris, Matt and Alice are the right leaders to affirm The Ballantyne’s reputation as a dining destination,” said Tim Toohey, director of food and beverage, The Ballantyne. “Their collective expertise provides the perfect background to continue to elevate flavor, creativity and presentation at The Ballantyne.”

As executive sous chef, Moore will assist the executive chef in leading the culinary initiatives at The Ballantyne by ensuring the highest level of quality, consistency and presentation. Most recently, Moore served as chef de cuisine at Gallery Restaurant, during which he participated in multiple culinary competitions. He started at Gallery as sous chef and also served as executive chef at the Meadowbrook Inn in Blowing Rock, North Carolina.

Executive Banquet Chef Garrett Merck will assist Moore in the kitchen. Before returning to The Ballantyne, Merck served as chef de cuisine at Le Boheme at the Grand Bohemian Hotel in Orlando, Florida. Prior to that, Merck was sous chef at Gallery Restaurant and worked as sous chef at The Club at Longview in Weddington, North Carolina.

The Ballantyne also welcomes Chris Shatto, director of outlets. Shatto will direct and coordinate operations of the hotel’s food and beverage departments. Shatto most recently served as director of food & beverage at the Le Meridien Charlotte and the Sheraton Charlotte Hotel and played a pivotal role in introducing the newly transitioned properties to the market. Before working at Starwood Hotels & Resorts, Chris worked in food and beverage management at Trump National Doral Miami, Turnberry Isle Miami and Casa Monica Hotel in St. Augustine.

Matt Tilman has been named chef de cuisine at Gallery Restaurant. As chef de cuisine, Tilman will oversee the daily culinary operations of Gallery, as well as all à la carte food service operations throughout The Ballantyne. Most recently, Matt served as sous chef. Prior to joining Gallery, Tilman held

sous chef positions at Global Restaurant and e2 Emeril's Eatery in Charlotte. Tilman also worked in culinary at Myers Country Club, Noble's Restaurant and Rooster's Wood-Fired Kitchen.

As sous chef at Gallery Restaurant, Alice Danter will be responsible for planning and directing food preparation in the kitchen, including quality control, consistency and driving efforts to exceed guest expectations. Before joining Gallery, Danter worked in food and beverage in Tennessee. Most recently, she was sous chef at Babalu Tacos & Tapas in Knoxville. Danter also served as a line cook at Blackberry Farm in Walland and Interim Restaurant in Memphis.

#### **About The Ballantyne, a Luxury Collection Hotel, Charlotte**

[The Ballantyne](#), a [Luxury Collection](#) Hotel, Charlotte is a Forbes Four-Star and AAA Four-Diamond award-winning hotel located in Charlotte, NC. Featuring 208 elegant guest rooms and suites, The Ballantyne also offers a four-bedroom Cottage and a Lodge group retreat with 35 spacious guest rooms. Guests can enjoy meeting and event facilities, [spa](#), fitness, indoor and outdoor pools, [golf](#), [Dana Rader Golf School](#), tennis and dining at [Gallery Restaurant](#). The Ballantyne is owned by [Bissell](#). For more information and reservations, call 866-248-4824, visit [theballantynehotel.com](http://theballantynehotel.com) or follow [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

#### **About The Luxury Collection Hotels & Resorts**

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