

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## KENNARDO HOLDER NAMED EXECUTIVE CHEF AT THE BALLANTYNE

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (February 9, 2017) – The Ballantyne, a Luxury Collection Hotel, Charlotte welcomes Kennardo Holder as Executive Chef. With nearly 17 years of experience, Holder has an extensive background in culinary at Ritz-Carlton properties. As Executive Chef at The Ballantyne, Holder will oversee the hotel's banquet and pastry kitchens, Gallery Restaurant and culinary operations, ensuring the highest level of quality and consistency as it relates to food preparation and presentation.

"Kennardo understands what it to takes to deliver the best in cuisine on a global level. We look forward to bringing his relatable yet memorable approach to our culinary offerings and continuing to elevate the dining experience," said Peter Grills, general manager, The Ballantyne.

Before joining The Ballantyne, Holder served as Executive Chef at The Ritz-Carlton New York, Westchester. In this role, he significantly increased employee engagement and food quality while driving food and beverage operational revenues. Before that, Holder worked as Executive Sous Chef at The Ritz-Carlton Bachelor Gulch in Avon, Colorado.

Holder also held the positions of Executive Sous Chef and Sous Chef at The Ritz-Carlton Bahrain at Kingdom of Bahrain. He began his career at The Ritz-Carlton Golf & Spa Resort in Rose Hall, Jamaica.

Originally from Jamaica, Holder earned a bachelor's degree in hospitality management from the University of Phoenix. He resides in Charlotte, N.C.

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

<u>The Ballantyne</u>, a <u>Luxury Collection</u> 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, <u>spa</u>, fitness, indoor and outdoor pools, <u>golf</u>, <u>Dana Rader Golf School</u>, tennis and dining at <u>Gallery Restaurant</u>. For more information and reservations, call 866-248-4824, visit <u>theballantynehotel.com</u> or follow <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Facebook</u>.

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

The Luxury Collection® brand is comprised of world-renowned hotels and resorts offering unique, authentic experiences that evoke lasting, treasured memories. For the global explorer, The Luxury Collection offers a gateway to the world's most exciting and desirable destinations. Each hotel and resort is a unique and cherished expression of its location; a portal to the destination's indigenous charms and treasures. Originated in 1906 under the CIGA® brand as a collection of Europe's most celebrated and iconic properties, today The Luxury Collection brand is a glittering ensemble, recently surpassing 100 of the world's finest hotels and resorts in more than 30 countries. All of these hotels, many of them centuries old, are internationally recognized as being among the world's finest. For more information and new openings, visit theluxurycollection.com or follow Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

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