



NEWS RELEASE

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SKIRVIN HILTON HOTEL NAMES OKLAHOMA CITY POET ITS NEW ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

Kerri Shadid selected for Skirvin Hilton's Artist-in-Residence Program

OKLAHOMA CITY (October 10, 2014) — The Skirvin Hilton Hotel named [Kerri Shadid](#) its third artist in residence. Shadid, an accomplished poet, freelance writer and bookmaker from Oklahoma City, will work from the historic hotel's studio space on Broadway for one year beginning **October 13, 2014**. The space will serve as the permanent home for [Poetry Stand](#), Shadid's performance piece in which she writes spontaneous, customized poems for people based on brief conversations she has with them. The space will also showcase her incredible talent in marbling and hand-binding books.

"I am beyond thrilled to have the opportunity to share my passion and work in such a beautiful and lively location," said Shadid. "As an artist my work is often inspired by conversations I have with others. By working in the hotel's studio space with its beautiful windows and welcoming atmosphere I am sure to meet fascinating people and look forward to engaging with them through poetry."

While in the space, Shadid will work on a collection of poems for the Skirvin Hotel titled, "Passing Through: Words and Faces of the Skirvin Hotel." The collection will be comprised of replicas of poems she writes from her *Poetry Stand* for any guest of the hotel, downtown community member or passerby that visits the space. The original poems will serve as unique souvenirs for the visitors to remember their time in downtown Oklahoma City.

The Skirvin's selection committee, consisting of leaders in the local art community, the Paseo Art Association and the Skirvin Hilton, selected Shadid from a distinguished pool of artists. Shadid graduated from the University of Oklahoma with bachelor's degrees in Letters and Political Science and received a master's degree in Humanities and Social Thought from New York University. She spent a year abroad studying French in Clermont-Ferrand, France and studied UN peacekeeping as a Fulbright student at McGill University in Montreal. Shadid is the Skirvin Hilton's third artist in residence, following violin maker Arsenios Corbishley.

“We are delighted to have Kerri as our new artist in residence,” Skirvin Hilton Hotel General Manager Brett Sundstrom said. “From abstract mosaics and violin making to now poetry and book making, it’s exciting to see our program continue to bring unique talent to the Skirvin and downtown Oklahoma City. I am confident our hotel guests will enjoy this unique and personal experience.”

The Skirvin Hilton is majority-owned and operated by [Marcus Hotels & Resorts](#), in partnership with [Skirvin Partners in Development](#).

About The Skirvin Hilton Hotel

The Skirvin Hilton originally opened in 1911 and has been synonymous with elegance and innovation for the past five generations, hosting oil barons, dignitaries, movie stars, political leaders and presidents ever since. Guests from around the globe have traveled through the downtown Skirvin Hilton to experience its unique sophistication and timelessness. In 2007, Skirvin Partners in Development, Marcus Hotels & Resorts and the Hilton partnered on renovating the hotel to its original glory. The reopening event was designated as an official Oklahoma Centennial event and since the renovation; the hotel has earned a AAA Four Diamond rating every year and received the Mayor’s Development Award for best downtown development.

The hotel features 225 luxuriously appointed guest rooms, including 20 one-bedroom suites, one presidential suite and 18,500 square feet of premiere meeting and pre-function space. It is home to the upscale Park Avenue Grill restaurant and Red Piano lounge.

Last year, the Skirvin was named one of the best hotel meeting destinations and received a prestigious Pinnacle Award from *Successful Meetings*. The hotel was also once again recognized as one of the 2014 Best Hotels in the USA by *U.S. News & World Report*, finishing as the #1 Hotel in Oklahoma City and the State of Oklahoma. The hotel remains on the National Register of Historic Places.

For more information, please visit www.skirvinhilton.com and follow the company on [Facebook](#) (www.facebook.com/TheSkirvinHilton)and [Twitter](#) (@SkirvinHiltonOKC).

About Marcus Hotels & Resorts

[Marcus Hotels & Resorts](#) is a division of [The Marcus Corporation](#) (NYSE: MCS). When it assumes management of The Hotel Zamora in St. Pete Beach, Fla. on November 1, the company will own and/or manage 20 hotels, resorts and other properties in 11 states. A force in the hospitality industry, Marcus Hotels & Resorts provides expertise in management, development and historic renovations. The company’s portfolio includes a wide variety of properties including city-center meeting hotels, upscale resorts and branded first-class hotels. For more information on the latest news and updates, please visit: <http://media.marcushotels.com> and follow the company on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) (@MarcusHotels).