



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**BELLE MER, NEWPORT'S PREMIER BOUTIQUE EVENT VENUE, NAMES  
LOCAL HOSPITALITY EXECUTIVE, ANDREW JAY, TO  
TOP POST AS GENERAL MANAGER**

*New Leadership and Vision to Re-Define the Belle Mer Experience at  
Longwood Events Prestigious Newport Venue*

**(Boston, MA) August 20, 2009** - Longwood Events today proudly announces the appointment of Mr. Andrew Jay to the position of General Manager at its prestigious Newport, Rhode Island venue, Belle Mer. Jay brings new leadership to the premier property and an exceptional knowledge of luxury destinations and distinctive culinary and hospitality experiences. He will oversee the day to day operations and services of Newport's pre-eminent luxury boutique events venue implementing new services and offerings that will bring a new level of sophistication to the property and redefine the Belle Mer Experience. With a focus on organic and sustainable ingredients from local purveyors and an interest in enhanced relationships with community and corporate partners Belle Mer will continue to be the Newport event experience that defines excellence. Longwood Events, with corporate offices located in Boston, Massachusetts, is New England's premier full service event planning and management company boasting a portfolio of exclusive and distinctive venues including the stunning, contemporary oceanside setting of Belle Mer in Newport, RI, the ultra-chic urban setting of State Room in Downtown Boston and the magnificent old world grandeur of Veronique in Brookline, MA.

Mr. Jay came to Belle Mer from Stone House in Little Compton, Rhode Island where he held the position of Director of Restaurants. He was responsible for the hiring, training and development of all service staff and created Rhode Island's only organic/biodynamic beverage program. Prior to his tenure at Stone House, Jay was the Director of Food & Beverage for Castle Hill Inn & Resort in Newport, Rhode Island where he was pivotal in the attainment of Relais & Chateaux status for the resort. He also held the position of Director of Food & Beverage for another Relais & Chateaux property, Glendorn in Bradford, PA where he oversaw training, marketing and service standards. Jay also



served as the GM and Sommelier at the Ryland Inn in Whithouse, NJ, a *New York Times* Four Star property. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Classical and Comparative Literature from San Francisco University and a Juris Doctorate degree from Southwestern University Law School.

“We are extremely pleased that Andrew Jay has joined Belle Mer as the new General Manager. He brings an exceptional blend of expertise and vision to our beautiful oceanside venue.” said Travis McCready, CEO of Longwood Events. “We were looking for the very best candidate for this position, and were more than pleased that we found that expertise and level of professionalism in an individual from the Newport market.”

“I am both excited and proud to be selected as the new General Manager for Belle Mer. It is an outstanding professional opportunity, and an exhilarating personal one. The location is spectacular, the facility is stunning and the product offerings are superior to anything in the marketplace. I believe the property has not reached its full potential yet and I look forward to growing the business in ways that will be new and distinctive.” said Andrew Jay, newly appointed GM of Belle Mer.

Jay and his family reside in Portsmouth, Rhode Island. His official duties as General Manager of Belle Mer became effective August 4, 2009.

**ABOUT LONGWOOD EVENTS**

Longwood Events is the premier full service event planning and management company in New England offering a portfolio of distinctive boutique event venues. Renowned for their legendary service, sophisticated ambience, spectacular settings and custom catered cuisine, Longwood Events delivers the exceptional event experience for the most discerning of hosts. Weddings, special occasion celebrations, corporate meetings and non-profit galas are all managed by a highly select and professional staff offering five star service and personal attention the smallest of details. Event venues include the urban chic of Sixty State Street, Boston, MA, the stunning oceanside vistas of Belle Mer, Newport, RI and the classic traditional setting of Veronique, Brookline, MA.

For more information on any of the Longwood Events venues, and to book your reservation, please contact us at 617.854.5000 or visit us online at [www.longwoodevents.com](http://www.longwoodevents.com).