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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Albany Tourism Industry Recognizes Mazzone Hospitality at Annual Celebration**

**ALBANY, NY** – On April 5, at Discover Albany’s Annual Meeting, the hospitality community will honor Mazzone Hospitality, the largest catering and hospitality company in the region.

Mazzone Hospitality will receive the Professor Anthony J. Strianese Hospitality Excellence Award, or “The Toby” as it’s lovingly referred to in the hospitality community. The award is named for Professor Strianese, an instructor and chair of Schenectady County Community College’s School of Hotel, Culinary Arts, and Tourism program, and co-author of several hospitality textbooks.

“I’m really proud to receive this award, and to be recognized by Discover Albany and the hospitality community,” says Angelo Mazzone, Owner and President of Mazzone Hospitality. Mazzone added that Toby Strianese was his professor, and a dear friend, and making the award that much more meaningful to him. “It’s not every day that you receive an award named for one of your friends and confidantes, and I am really honored to be able to accept this. It means a lot.”

In 25 years, Mazzone Hospitality has grown from a small family-run company to a corporation that employs more than 1,000 hospitality professionals. Mazzone Hospitality services corporate clients, off-premise catering, and stand-alone facilities, and their catering services have helped to support the growing economy of the Capital Region.

“As a caterer at both the Empire State Plaza and the Albany Capital Center, Mazzone helps Albany put its best foot forward for meetings and events,” says Michele Vennard, President and CEO of Discover Albany. “Mazzone creates that great first impression for our destination because they are committed to delivering the best possible experience – whether your group is 100 or 1000. We are very pleased to be able to honor this company, and the man behind it, Angelo Mazzone.”

***About Discover Albany***

*The Albany County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc. was established in 1976 to promote the civic and commercial progress of the community through increased development of conventions and tourism. Today, we’re known as Discover Albany and represent more than 300 member-businesses. Each year, we assist in hundreds of regional meetings. Discover Albany also operates the Albany Heritage Area Visitors Center, Henry Hudson Planetarium, and the Albany International Airport Information Center. For more information, call 518-434-1217 or 800-258-3582 or visit [www.albany.org](http://www.albany.org).*

**Albany County Convention & Visitors Bureau**

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