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ME PRODUCTIONS

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ME Productions Student Internship Program Helps Prepare Future Industry Leaders

6/12/2008 - You can go to school to learn about event production, but most agree - nothing replaces hands on experience. That's one reason why ME Productions of South Florida has hosted over 75 students over the past eight years through its student internship program. They work 'hands on' with ME's professional team to create outstanding weddings, corporate events, private galas, and multi-day events.

The year-round program enables students from university programs to circulate within the company to gain knowledge of each department. 'We are encouraged to voice our ideas and opinions,' says university student, Caitlin Nolan, of her experience in ME's marketing department. 'We are asked to offer our outlook and aid in the planning of company social activities. A recent example, she says, was the ME's 'Memorial Day Pot Luck,' enabling each intern to lend a helping hand in organizing and executing the event.'

Headquartered in Pembroke Park, FL, ME Productions is South Florida's largest event production company and offers students opportunities that they might not get in the classroom or elsewhere, thanks to its size and number of division that include: social events (weddings, quinces, and bar and bat mitzvahs and private soirees); corporate events that includes hosting multi-day events for some of the largest Fortune 500 companies in the country, florals, décor, graphic design, premiums and amenities,

marketing, entertainment, DMC services, and more.

'My short time at ME Productions has provided me with unique opportunities that I will use for a lifetime,' said ME Intern and University of Florida student, Samantha Sedano. 'I am so grateful to ME Productions for giving me this hands-on experience.'

The goal of the ME Productions Internship Program is to prepare every student in its program for the reality of the industry and provide them with real tools that they can use in the future. 'We want to demonstrate how to bridge the gap between academia and the real world,' says CEO, Hal Etkin. 'With support and continual guidance we help student interns get ahead. We've kept a few on staff when their internships end, finding a great pool of potential long-term talent as well.'

Several ME interns have also gone on to work with other companies within the industry. Previous ME intern, Ashley Hayes, is now Sales Manager of the Royal Palm Hotel on South Beach. 'ME Productions really marked the beginning of my career in hospitality management. Being a part of the ME family, along with hard work, perseverance and a good formal education, gave me the skills I needed to answer when opportunity knocked.'

ME Productions' interns come from a range of universities including:

- Wayne State University
- Missouri State University
- Florida State University
- University of Florida
- University of Miami
- Florida International University
- University of Central Florida

During their term at ME Productions, the interns work on various projects such as:

- Writing Event Proposals
- Building Corporate Catalogues (Hotel Books), using the Adobe CS3 series
- Composing Press Releases
- Creating Wedding & Bar/Bat Mitzvah Guides
- Accompanying Corporate Sales Managers on Hotel Visits
- Following up with Previous and Potential Leads

Florida's largest meeting and special events firm, ME Productions, is an award-winning full-service destination management and event production company specializing in national and international corporate and social events, décor, floral design, destination management services, business theater, staging, audio-visual, music and entertainment.

ME Productions is headquartered in Pembroke Park, Florida. The company's Central Florida Office is located at 6220 South Orange Blossom Trail, Suite 140, Orlando, FL 32809.

For more information, go to www.meproductions.com.

