

## ROBERT HABEEB

Founder & CEO | Maverick Hotels and Restaurants

Robert Habeeb is the Founder and CEO of Maverick Hotels and Restaurants. Maverick is fast gaining a reputation as an industry leader for innovation in its forward-looking approaches to hotel development and management. Maverick also offers cutting edge Beverage and Food programs with a particular emphasis on Roof Top venues through a unique partnership with two James Beard Award winning restauranteurs.

Prior to Maverick, Habeeb served for 21 years as First Hospitality Group's high-profile President and CEO. He is regarded as one of the leading voices in the Hospitality Industry today. Over his tenure at FHG the company saw significant growth earned a long list of recognitions including multiple years as best of category on Forbes Magazine's Best Employers and INC magazine's Fastest Growing Companies lists.

Mr. Habeeb is also dedicated doing his part to nurturing tomorrow's hospitality leaders through education. He has received an impressive list of recognitions including Michigan State University Man of The Year and Global Hotelier of The Year. He is a frequent and popular industry speaker and author and serves on numerous College boards. His innovative approaches to management have been widely recognized in and out of the hospitality industry. With a strong passion for educating those pursuing a career in the hospitality industry, Habeeb serves as a long-time member of the adjunct faculty of Chicago's Roosevelt University, where he teaches at a graduate level in the Manfred Steinfeld School of Hospitality Management. He has served on numerous industry and academic boards and councils, including the board of directors and executive committee of the American Hotel & Lodging Association and board of the Illinois Hotel and Lodging Association where he served two terms as chairman. He is widely considered the "go to guy" and leading expert on the hospitality industry.

