



Immediate Release

## **“Yes, We Can 2009 Inauguration Cruise”**

### **Seven Day Voyage to the Inauguration of Barack Obama**

#### **Tickets Now Available**

**Chicago, IL** December 22 -HotelBlox announced today that it has partnered with Imperial Majesty Cruise Line and Yes We Can Cruise, Inc., to offer an exclusive sailing to the inauguration of Barack Obama, who will be sworn in as the 44<sup>th</sup> president of the United States of America on January 20, 2009.

The seven day itinerary aboard Imperial Majesty’s MV Regal Empress cruise ship will depart from Port Everglades, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida on Friday January 16<sup>th</sup> to sail round trip to Baltimore, Maryland, located only 40 minutes from Washington D.C. Dubbed **“Yes, We Can 2009 Inauguration Cruise,”** it is the first ever, passenger cruise to the inauguration celebration of a U. S. President.

#### **Highlights include:**

- All the inclusive, features that you’d expect on a cruise vacation including meals, entertainment, and recreation
- A stop in Freeport Bahamas
- Onboard spa
- Casino gaming at sea
- Two days port in Baltimore for the Inauguration
- Ground transfers to Inauguration events
- “Yes We Can 2009 Cruise Ball” at the historic, Frances-Merrick Performing Arts Center, Baltimore

“Originally labeled ‘Charter 44 – The Cruise to History,’ our cruise product was conceived as a unique, yet pragmatic solution for individuals wanting to attend inaugural events against a backdrop of limited hotel and air availability” said Lephate Cunningham, Jr., Managing Partner of HotelBlox. “Nearing the end of the ship procurement process, we discovered Yes We Can 2009 Cruise, Inc., a volunteer group based in Broward County, Florida that was organized solely to put together a cruise as a less expensive

way to attend to the Inauguration. The group was faced with a major fundraising goal without a lot of time to get there. We invited them to join our project.”

“We were thrilled when HotelBlox contacted us” said Karen Phillips, Yes We Can Cruise, Inc. “After one meeting, we knew that our grass roots efforts combined with the industry knowledge, marketing and distribution capabilities of HotelBlox could help make our dream a reality.”

To fully appreciate the efforts of Yes We Can Cruise, Inc., HotelBlox decided to adopt the group’s branding for the Inauguration cruise.

This once-in-a-lifetime voyage would not be possible without a committed and creative cruise line partner. HotelBlox could not have found a better partner than in Imperial Majesty. “This is such a historic event in our country’s history,” said Glenn Ryerson, Vice President of Marketing Imperial Majesty Cruise Line. “We’re very pleased to provide fun alternative transportation and accommodations to people who wouldn’t be able to get a hotel room in the area.”

The MV Regal Empress is a vintage cruise liner offering 500, oversized state rooms (double, triple or quad occupancy) and passenger capacity of 1100. According to Peter Knego of Maritime Matters, “the MV Regal Empress is an absolute must do for anyone with an interest in classic passenger ships. The Caribbean Restaurant, to this vintage ship lover, is the most beautiful room of any ship sailing.”

**FOR RESERVATIONS:**

**VISIT: [WWW.YESWECAN2009CRUISE.COM](http://WWW.YESWECAN2009CRUISE.COM)**

**CALL: 866 –621-2560**

**MON – FRI 9:00 am to 11:00 pm EST**

**SAT – SUN 10:00 am – 8 pm EST**

**DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> 9:00 am – 6:00 pm EST**

**DECEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup> 10:00 am – 8:00 pm EST**

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**About HotelBlox LLC:** Chicago, Illinois based HotelBlox provides turn-key, lodging procurement services, meeting/event solutions and customized group travel options to organizations worldwide. The company is accredited by International Airlines Travel Agent Network (IATAN), a member of National Tour Association (NTA), a NTA China Inbound Program approved tour operator and certified Minority Business Enterprise. For more information, visit [www.hotelblox.com](http://www.hotelblox.com).

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