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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Champaign-Urbana Area Restaurant Week Celebrates 10 Years

Champaign, IL – Experience Champaign-Urbana will host their 10th Annual Champaign-Urbana Area Restaurant Week, presented by the University of Illinois Community Credit Union, January 30–February 7. The nine-day celebration of our award-winning culinary scene includes options for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and dessert at local restaurants across the Champaign-Urbana region. Additional sponsors to this year’s event include Fever Tree, Silver Tree Beer & Spirits, Triptych Brewing, and Clanin Creative.

“When we started this event 10 years ago, we had 17 participants and were thrilled with how it was received,” states Terri Reifsteck, Vice President of Destination Branding & Development from Experience Champaign-Urbana. “Today, we’re about to cross over 60 participating restaurants that offer everything from delectable desserts to an exquisite farm-to-table experience. We could not have grown this event without the support of this community.”

“Restaurant Week is a powerful example of Do More Good in action, supporting local businesses, strengthening our economy, and bringing people together,” said Brooke Blankenship, AVP of Marketing at U of I Community Credit Union. “It’s about more than great food; it’s about community. We’re proud to present an event that celebrates the people, flavors, and local restaurants that make Champaign-Urbana such a special place to call home.”

Menus for participating restaurants will be available in the coming days at curestaurantweek.org. “Whether you want a meal with your young family, you’re a hungry student on campus, or you’re planning a date night, we have something for every price point and every palate,” adds Reifsteck. We’re also excited to feature restaurants outside of Champaign-Urbana, including Rantoul, Mahomet, St. Joseph, Monticello, Tuscola, and Paxton.”

Restaurant Week provides a much-needed boost to our local restaurants during the winter months, with tens of thousands of website views during January, including a surge at the start of the event. Diners are strongly encouraged to make reservations where available or dine at off-peak hours. “This week draws a lot of diners, so one tip is to make reservations where available on the two weekends or dine during off-peak hours,” says Reifsteck.

The list of participating restaurants is still growing, but as of January 8, they include: 83 Vietnamese Cuisine, Analog Wine Bar, BakeLab, BakeLab Patisserie, Baldarotta’s Porketta & Sicilian Sausage, BBQ Chicken, Big Grove Tavern, Billy Barooz, Blind Pig Brewpub, BrewLab, Briks Pizzeria, The Burrito Lab, Caffè Bene, Caprae, Esquire Lounge, ET’s Downtown, Forage Kitchen, Good Judy’s Espresso & Bagel Bar, Hacienda Robello, Hamilton Walker’s, Hopscotch Bakery, Houlihan’s, Jupiter’s Downtown and Jupiter’s at the Crossing, Kohinoor Indian Lounge, Kung Fu Tea, La Paloma Food Truck, Lazy Daisy Café, Los Zarapes, The Main Scoop (all locations), Maize at the Station, Martinelli’s Market, Nando Milano Trattoria, Naya Indian Cuisine, Neil St. Blues, Pekara Bakery &



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Bistro, Pizzeria Antica, Po'Boys Restaurant, Pokelab, Project 47 Smokehouse, Punch! Bar & Lounge, The Ribeye, Sepelas, Seven Saints, SGD DUBU, Silvercreek, The Space, Stango Cuisine/Wood N' Hog Barbecue, Sticky Rice, Sun Singer, Susuru Ramen, Tenkyu, Watson's Shack & Rail, and The Wheelhouse.

Diners can find information at curestaurantweek.org or on Experience Champaign-Urbana's Facebook event. For more information about participating or sponsoring, contact Terri Reifsteck at 217-351-4133 or terrir@experiencecu.org.

About Experience Champaign-Urbana

Experience Champaign-Urbana is the certified destination management organization for the greater Champaign-Urbana area. Their mission is to promote a welcoming destination experience for visitors to strengthen economic opportunity and enhance the lives of residents. Visit experiencecu.org to learn more.

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