#### **UPDATED RELEASE**



Rolling in the Flavor: Columbus Food Truck Announces Exciting Lineup For Downtown Event!

Nationally Recognized Festival Celebrating 13 Years of Culinary Delight and Community Spirit

COLUMBUS, OH –June 13, 2024–The Columbus Food Truck Festival is thrilled to announce details on its return to Downtown Columbus on Friday, July 12, and Saturday, July 13, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., along the scenic Scioto Peninsula. (Following the downtown event, the festival will also make its way back to Hilliard at the Franklin County Fairgrounds on Saturday, August 17. \*Details including food vendor information about the Hilliard event will be announced later this summer in a subsequent release.)

The festival, now in its 13th year, is expected to draw 100,000 visitors downtown to experience the very best food trucks in Ohio. This year's festival will delight hungry guests with over 65 food trucks offering a delicious array of cuisines. Complementing the wonderful food is live music, which has become a signature staple of the event, along with unique shopping, and family fun.

## THE FOOD

This year's festival features favorites such as: Fine Smoke Barbeque, Tortilla Street Food, CiaoGelatoTruck, Cousins Maine Lobster, Zaki Mediterranean Grill, Big Mouth Egg Rolls, Rime Time Pops, Amish Country Donuts, Grilled Cheese Gangsters, The Cheesecakery, For The Love Of Dough, Pretzelfuls, Shrimp Lips Seafood, Fat Boy Q, Rodalyn's Kitchen, Graeter's Ice Cream, Fat Kid Burgers, Rafter C Chuckwagon, Khaao Macha Indian Fusion, LaRosas Family Pizzeria, Pizza Cottage, Cazuelas, Island Noodles, Chicken Mac Truck, Zone 5 BBQ, Eiffel Street Food, Elevated Wood Fired Pizza, All Around Sweets & Treats LLC, S.E.A. Cuisine, Casa Hacienda, Spanglish Latin Street Food, Glaze'Em Gourmet Funnel Cakes, Lumpia Queen, Iriejam Island Grill, Big Pappy's BBQ, MamaBears Mac, Zapata's Street Food, The Howlin Bird, Taesty's, NeNe's Sweets, Cunningham, Uncle Bacon's BBQ, Machete Taqueria, Big Bamboo's

Caribbean Grill, Spanish Bowl, Empanadas and More, Dr. Hibachi, Cupzilla, Crunchwerks, Smitty's BBQ, Dickey's BBQ, Earl B's Catering, Schmidt's Sausage, Johnson's Real Ice Cream, TurkeysRUs BBQ, Big Shrimp Energy + more TBA

## A "TASTE" OF NOSTALGIA + AMAZING LOCAL ARTISANS + CRAFTERS

Due to the success of The Columbus Vintage Exchange at last year's Hilliard edition, the popular feature is being added to Downtown this year. The exchange, meticulously curated by its founder Jordan Hensley along with Adam Himmel and Tony Cipriani of Midwest Vintage Collective, offers a unique shopping experience deeply rooted in 80's and 90's nostalgia.

Vendors include: Columbus Vintage Exchange, Columbus Vinyl Club, K.alexandera.goods, Midwest Vintage Collective, Little Rascals Vintage, Bin There Wore That, Retro Reese, Niche Kicks, CRC Sells, The Outside Artist, Keystone Relics, Lady Madonna Vintage, Double Decker Vintage, Peter's Vision, Pony Boat Vintage (2 spaces), Psysunflower Vintage, Reborn Mercantile, Retroplug, Rovert Studios, Laina's Closet, Skia Vintage, Thistle Stitch, Dust Bunniez, Avocado Shag Shop + more vendors TBA

Chas Kaplan, Columbus Food Truck Festival Co-Founder and Co-Organizer, states, "The success of the Columbus Vintage Exchange at our Hilliard event last year was truly inspiring. We are excited to bring this popular element to our Downtown edition this year, adding a unique and nostalgic shopping experience for our attendees."

Several local artisans and crafters will also set up shop for the weekend including: FoodieCards, Bad Momma Boutique, Coffico African Beauty and Fashion, Angry Irishman LLC, Femme Yogipreneur LLC, Underworld Feast LLC, WanderSom, M.Nell Designs, Southern Slut Sweets & Treats, APS Clothing, Magic Hands Massage Bus, The Creation Circus, Native Findings and others TBA.

#### THE MUSIC

As in year's past, the festival boasts an exciting lineup of musical acts on two stages providing a vibrant soundtrack for the festivities. Recognizing that live music is one of the highlights festival-goers eagerly anticipate, this year's performances are set to impress and delight attendees. Artists performing include:

## Friday-Main Stage

The Bittertones, Jared Denen, Friends With Elephants, Jared Mahone, and The Winnie Cooper Project

# Friday-Second Stage

Blucone, Teen Fiction, and Zoo Trippin'

## Saturday – Main Stage

Ramsica, David Luther, Eastwood, The Receiver, Friends Of The Dead, and Local Favorite to headline **MojoFlo** 

## Saturday-Second Stage

Electric Dream Machine, Sarah Cowan, Jocef Michael Band, and Cozen

Specific set times are being finalized and will be available in the coming weeks at columbusfoodtruckfest.com.

#### **COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY**

Since its inception, the Columbus Food Truck Festival has donated over \$97,000 to local charities. This year, a portion of the proceeds will benefit Music Loves Ohio, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting music education for underserved youth. Additionally, many of the over 300 festival volunteers are recipients of the festival's charitable efforts.

"The Food Truck Festival is not just about great food and entertainment; it's also about giving back to the community. We're proud to support Music Loves Ohio and other local charities that make a positive impact," says Chas Kaplan.

Mike Gallicchio, the other half of the co-founding and co-organizing team, adds, "The festival has become a hallmark event in the region, bringing together foodies, music lovers, and families alike for an amazing weekend."

#### FAMILY FUN AT THE COLUMBUS FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

Elevate your festival experience at Midway on the Mile! Join us on the Rich Street Bridge overlooking Downtown Columbus for a free, unique carnival-style event featuring iconic summer fun including a trackless train, obstacle course, wipeout attraction, and more. Prepare for adultand family-friendly fun and breathtaking views, directly between the Food Truck Festival and the enhanced Scioto Mile Fountain at Bicentennial Park.

## **FESTIVAL GENERAL INFORMATION (DOWNTOWN EDITION)**

# **Festival Date and Hours of Operation**

The Columbus Food Truck Festival welcomes guests Friday, July 12, and Saturday, July 13, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. *Please note, the festival hours have been adjusted to end at 9 p.m. each day to allow for thorough cleanup and ensure vendors can fully prepare for the next day's activities.* 

## Accessibility, Transportation, and Bike Valet Services

The festival site is handicapped-accessible and conveniently located near parking and public transportation, ensuring easy access for all attendees. In addition, the Columbus Food Truck Festival is situated at the crossroads of several bike paths and trails, making it a bicycle-friendly event. With that, the festival is happy to announce that bike valet services are being provided by Franklinton Cycleworks.

#### Admission

Admission to the downtown event is free of charge.

# **Special Partner Rate**

The festival extends sincere appreciation to the Junto Hotel for their invaluable support. The Junto will be offering a 10% discount to festival guests. Guests can take advantage of this rate by visiting the <u>columbusfoodtruckfest.com</u>.

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#### **About the Columbus Food Truck Festival**

The Columbus Food Truck Festival, now in its 13th year, is a premier celebration of Ohio's vibrant food truck scene. Originating in Downtown Columbus, the festival has grown to feature over 65 food trucks, attracting more than 100,000 attendees annually. In addition to showcasing

culinary delights, the festival includes live music, arts and crafts, and family-friendly activities. Committed to supporting local businesses and charities, the festival has contributed over \$97,000 to community causes. For more details, visit, <a href="columbusfoodtruckfest.com">columbusfoodtruckfest.com</a>.

Website:columbusfoodtruckfest.com

Social Media: Facebook, Instagram - @cbusfoodtruckfest

# **Festival Images for Media Use**

Downtown images and fliers. Please credit **Cori Erin** for the <u>Downtown Columbus images</u>. If you require unwatermarked images or have additional questions, please contact <u>Sheila</u> Rossiter.

## **About the Columbus Diaper Coalition**

The Columbus Diaper Coalition was born out of a need within the community. Upon learning that diapers were not covered by Ohio Works First, SNAP Benefits, or other social-service organizations in the state of Ohio, the Co-Founders; Iris Coker and Lara Smith began to put the wheels in motion to start a diaper bank.

Iris Coker, the Co-Founder of the Columbus Diaper Coalition felt a personal connection to families struggling to make ends meet and provide for their children. Having been a single mother while working full-time, and attending college full-time at Ohio Dominican University, she could relate to those tough financial decisions that parents are often forced to make. She understood that something as simple as assistance with diapers could provide those parents with peace of mind and a little relief from financial stress.

The Columbus Diaper Coalition launched in November of 2013, partnering with two Columbus-area food pantries, and continues to grow and expand its reach through the addition of more pantries and social service organizations. The vision of every member of the Columbus Diaper Coalition is to grow into a diaper bank in Columbus, Ohio that can serve all areas of the city.

https://www.columbusdiapercoalition.org/

## **About the Scioto Peninsula**

At the convergence of Downtown's central business district and the historic Franklinton neighborhood, The Scioto Peninsula brings together the best of all worlds - just around the bend of the Scioto River.

The Columbus Food Truck Festival will take place specifically along the west side of the Center of Science and Industry, COSI, along the Scioto River.

For more information about the Scioto Peninsula visit the <u>Columbus Downtown Development</u> <u>Corporation</u>.

For more information and media inquiries, please contact:

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