



Louisville Marriott Downtown Announces New Executive Chef

Louisville, KY - (9-23-10) – Louisville Marriott Downtown announces a new Executive Chef. Graham Weber, C.E.C. describes his position as “the best job in the world.” Weber says he is excited to work at such a prestigious hotel in the Louisville area.

“The Louisville Marriott has had an exceptional reputation for culinary creativity and consistent quality within the Metro area,” Weber says. “I am thrilled to join such a talented team of professionals and look forward to the exciting opportunity. My goal is to layer-in some of my food experiences in the U.S. and abroad with the existing high-caliber cuisine the hotel is already known for to make the Louisville Marriott Downtown a culinary destination”.

As executive chef, Weber oversees the entire food service at the Louisville Marriott Downtown. He is responsible for designing and preparing meals to be served at BLU Italian Grille as well as at Champions Sports Bar. He also creates custom menus for themed events with parties of 20 people or 2,000 including many of the hotels high profile gala events.

Weber says he intends to use local products from vendors, farmers and cheese-makers throughout the Kentucky marketplace as much as possible. He also is planning some new, exciting seasonal cuisine that patrons will be able to experience during the 2010 holiday season, including some decadent, signature dessert items.

What distinguishes Weber from other chefs? “I’m definitely a from-scratch chef. I like to make the soups, the stocks and everything myself,” he says.

Weber has been a professional chef for 15 years. He began his career busing tables and enjoyed assisting the chef in the kitchen. He later learned his love of cooking which he says “just caught on.” Weber has held numerous positions across the United States, including in San Diego, Seattle, Baltimore, New Orleans, Atlantic City, and now in Louisville.

Besides cooking, Weber loves to travel. He has journeyed to places as far away as Thailand, Japan, Morocco and Spain where he took culinary classes. He also was part of the opening team for the new JW Marriott and Ritz Carlton Hotels in Beijing, PRC.

In addition, Weber has been featured in the nationally-published cookbook “Great Chefs of Baltimore.” He also hosted President Bush and Microsoft icons Bill Gates and Paul Allen in his award-winning Meritage Restaurant and Wine Bar in Seattle. While in NYC, Weber hosted two James Beard dinners which both sold out within the first week.

Weber graduated with honors from the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, NY and earned his certification through the American Culinary Federation. He also participates in regional competitions.

About Louisville Marriott Downtown

Louisville Marriott Downtown is a AAA, four-diamond premiere convention hotel located in downtown Louisville. It features 616 guestrooms and suites and 50,000 square feet of convention space. It offers world-class amenities and service that is unrivaled by other downtown Louisville hotels. Louisville Marriott Downtown provides skywalk access to the Kentucky International Convention Center and the 4th Street Live entertainment district. In addition, it's within walking distance from numerous tourist attractions including: Waterfront Park, Louisville Slugger Museum and the Muhammad Ali Center. The hotel is located just a short drive away from Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Exposition Center. Louisville Marriott Downtown guests can enjoy dining at Champion's Sports Bar & Restaurant or BLU Italian Grille which offers regional Italian classics with a contemporary flare. For more information, visit www.marriott.com or call 502-627-5045.

Media Contact:

Hailee Lampert

502-510-2349

hlampert@perituspr.com