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Jennifer Kramer, Senior Communications Manager
216.875.6635, jkramer@destinationcle.org

RESTAURANTS EMPHASIZE CITY PRIDE AND UNIQUENESS AT CLEVELAND HOST COMMITTEE'S WELCOME EVENT

CLEVELAND (July 16, 2016) – The [Cleveland 2016 Host Committee](#) today released a [video](#) that recognizes the many local restaurants and caterers that are participating in the Cleveland 2016 Host Committee's Welcome Party, "Rock the Night in CLE," on Sunday, July 17. The restaurant community's engagement and support underscores the Host Committee's message that showcasing Cleveland to Convention guests and media is about pride, not politics.

The video, which features Chef Jonathon Sawyer, will be shown at the event and highlights Cleveland's eclectic and unique culinary scene. Sawyer, along with Izzy Schachner from strEAT Mobile Bistro and others, led the effort to assemble the collection of restaurants, food trucks, caterers and baristas for the Welcome Party. In the video, Sawyer discusses the planning and collaboration needed for a successful event, and what it means for Cleveland.

"It's not political at all when you're talking about celebrating your city and putting it in the national limelight," Sawyer said. "Whether it's the Cavaliers' championship, the Gay Games, the RNC – we're getting an opportunity to show the world what our city is all about."

Thirty-five restaurants and 23 food trucks will serve more than 10,000 guests at North Coast Harbor on Sunday at the Welcome Party. Guests will be able to sample themed and specialty foods from the likes of The Pierogi Lady, Urban Farmer, Brewnuts and Betty's Bomb Ass Burgers, to name a few.

"The support of some of Cleveland's finest food and beverage institutions has been amazing," said David Gilbert, president and CEO, Cleveland 2016 Host Committee. "We at the Host Committee are grateful for the restaurant community's participation in this event. We are excited to share with our guests what locals already know – that Cleveland is a proud, collaborative city with an exceptional culinary scene."

An opening party is a Convention tradition where the host city welcomes guests to kick off the week and enjoy unique aspects of the city. As such, the Welcome Party is a private event for credentialed guests only.

The Cleveland chef welcome video can be found on the Cleveland 2016 Host Committee's [YouTube page](#). To learn more about Cleveland 2016 Host Committee or to keep up-to-date on new developments, please visit www.2016cle.com or follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).

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ABOUT CLEVELAND 2016 HOST COMMITTEE

The Cleveland 2016 Host Committee, Inc. is an Ohio nonprofit corporation with no political affiliation that is responsible for organizing, hosting and funding the 2016 Republican National Convention in Cleveland. Their mission is to promote Northeast Ohio and ensure Cleveland is best represented in addition to lessening the burden of local governments in hosting the 2016 Republican National Convention. For more information, visit www.2016cle.com.