MINNESOTA STATE FAIR NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Lara Hughes • Marketing & Communications Manager • Media Hotline: 651-288-4321 • Media Email: media@mnstatefair.org

Minnesota State Fair Announces 2024 Official New Foods and Food Vendors

July 9, 2024

St. Paul, Minn. – The Minnesota State Fair has added 33 official new foods and six new food vendors to the expansive menu already offered at the Great Minnesota Get-Together. In total, 1,600 menu items will be available at nearly 300 different concession locations throughout the fairgrounds this year. The Official New Foods announcement is sponsored by Mattress Firm.

<u>Media use</u>: High-resolution, downloadable new foods photos are available for media use at the following link (please credit Minnesota State Fair): mnstatefair.org/get-involved/media/new-this-year/food/

Public use: To share new foods with the public, use this link: mnstatefair.org/new-this-year/food/

NEW FOODS:

3 Piggy Pals On-A-Stick: Three smoked sausage slices wrapped in bacon, filled with a cream cheese mix, and drizzled with barbecue sauce. Topped with a jalapeño slice and served on-a-stick. (Gluten-Friendly) *At Sausage Sister & Me, located in the Food Building, east wall*

Afro Poppers: Bite-size pastries infused with an African blend of spices – ground vanilla, cardamom, ginger, cloves and nutmeg – deep-fried and coated with choice of coconut flakes, sugar or served plain. Topped with choice of drizzle – mango chutney, caramel or chocolate.

At Afro Deli, located in the Food Building, east wall

Ba'bacon Sour Cream + Onion: Sour cream + onion hummus topped with beef bacon, sumac tater tots, caramelized onions, scallions, French onion creme fraiche (*pronounced krem fresh*), black cumin seeds and chive oil. Served with pita puffs dusted with sour cream + onion powder. (Gluten-Free without pita puffs, Vegetarian without bacon) *At Baba's, located on the east side of Underwood Street between Lee & Randall avenues, just south of Little Farm Hands*

Blazing Greek Bites: Deep-fried bites made from a blend of chickpeas, tomato, roasted red pepper, scallions and cayenne pepper. Served with a side of roasted red pepper hummus. (Gluten-Free, Vegan) *At Dino's Gyros, located on the north side of Carnes Avenue between Nelson & Underwood streets*

Buffalo Cheese Curd & Chicken Tacos: Fried buffalo-flavored cheese curds and chicken topped with blue cheese slaw, drizzled with buffalo sauce, and served in a fried flour shell. *At Richie's Cheese Curd Tacos, located on the north side of Judson Avenue between Liggett & Clough streets, outside the Sheep & Poultry Barn*

Chile Mango Whip: Mango Dole Soft Serve in a cup rimmed and topped with chamoy (*pronounced chah-moy*) and Tajín (*pronounced tuh-HEEN*). Garnished with a tamarind (*pronounced ta-mr-uhnd*) candy straw. Alternate flavors of Dole Soft Serve include pineapple, strawberry and lemon. (Gluten-Free, Vegan) *At Tasti Whip, located on the northwest corner of Dan Patch Avenue & Underwood Street*

Cookie Butter Crunch Mini Donuts: Vanilla-flavored mini donuts coated with vanilla sugar, topped with Biscoff[®] cookie butter drizzle and cookie crumbles, and served in a bucket rimmed with cookie butter and cookie crumbles. *At Mini Donuts & Cheese Curds, located on the east side of Underwood Street between Murphy & Lee avenues*

Cotton Candy Iced Tea: Brewed butterfly pea flower tea sweetened with natural flavor and cane sugar. Garnished with a swirl of edible glitter and a rock candy swizzle stick to stir for a color-changing effect. (Gluten-Free, Caffeine-Free, Vegan)

At Loon Lake Iced Tea,* located on the west side of Underwood Street between Wright & Dan Patch avenues *New Vendor

Crab Boil Wings: Chicken wings marinated in hot sauce, grilled and then fried with corn, chicken apple sausage and potatoes. Tossed in a "crab boil" butter and finished with a lemon wedge and parsley. (Gluten-Free) *At Soul Bowl, located in the Food Building, east wall*

Deep-Fried Halloumi Cheese: Halloumi (*pronounced huh-loo-mee*) cheese, crafted from a blend of sheep and goat milk, wrapped in pastry dough and deep-fried. Served with a side of sweet chili sauce. (Vegetarian) *At Holy Land Deli, located at the International Bazaar, southeast corner*

Deep-Fried Ranch Dressing: Ranch dressing filling made with ranch seasoning, buttermilk and cream cheese in a panko shell, deep-fried and dusted with ranch powder. Served with a side of hot honey sauce crafted with Cry Baby Craig's hot sauce. (Vegetarian)

At LuLu's Public House, located at West End Market, south of Schilling Amphitheater

Dill Pickle Tots: Fried tater tots tossed in dill seasoning with a hint of vinegar flavor – like a dill pickle potato chip. (Vegan) *At Tot Boss, located on the east side of Underwood Street between Wright & Dan Patch avenues, south of Kidway*

Fried Bee-Nana Pie: Handmade pie filled with Minnesota honey, fresh banana and Biscoff[®] cookie butter; battered and deep-fried. (Vegetarian) *At Sabino's Pizza Pies, located in the Lee & Rose Warner Coliseum, north side*

Grilled Purple Sticky Rice: Purple sticky rice grilled over an open flame until crunchy, then topped with choice of shredded Hmong beef jerky or pickled mushrooms. Garnished with fresh herbs and finished with Union Hmong Kitchen's Krunchy Chili Aioli. (Gluten-Free, Vegetarian option) *At Union Hmong Kitchen, located at the International Bazaar, south wall, west corner*

Ham and Pickle Roll Up on a Potato Skin: Three fried potato skins filled with a blend of sour cream, cream cheese, chopped pickles and ham. Topped with potato chip crumbles. (Gluten-Friendly) *At Route 66 Roadhouse Chicken, located in the Food Building, northwest corner*

Lady's Slipper Marble Sundae: Bridgeman's strawberry ice cream, lemon marshmallow cream and ladyfinger cookies layered in a cup and topped with whipped cream and a cherry. *At Bridgeman's Ice Cream, located on the northeast corner of Judson Avenue & Liggett Street*

Marco's Garden: Local rhubarb jam, thyme-marinated locally sourced tomatoes, farmer cheese, jalapeño and honey served with a side of grilled gluten-free flatbread. (Gluten-Free, Vegan option uses thyme tofu dip and maple syrup instead of cheese and honey.)

At Jammy Sammies by BRIM, located at the North End, northwest section, across from the North End Event Center

Mocha Madness Shave Ice: Fluffy shave ice with caffeine-free coffee flavoring and an overflowing caramel macchiato (*pronounced mah-kee-ah-toe*) cold foam center. Drizzled with chocolate syrup and garnished with dark chocolate espresso beans. (Gluten-Free)

At Minnesnowii Shave Ice, located on the west side of Nelson Street between Dan Patch & Carnes avenues

Nixtamal & Wild Rice Bowl with Wóžapi & Bison Meatballs or Sweet Potato Dumplings (*pronounced nix-ta-mal and woh-zjah-pee*): Choice of bison meatballs or sweet potato dumplings, topped with mixed berry wóžapi sauce, and served on a bed of nixtamal (white corn, blue corn and yellow corn) mixed with wild rice and seasoned with maple and spices. Cricket & seed mix topping optional. (Gluten-Free, Vegan option)

At Midtown Global Market's Indigenous Food Lab,* located in the Taste of the Midtown Global Market booth at the International Bazaar, east wall (Aug. 28 to Sept. 2 only) *New Vendor

Patata Frita Focacciawich (*pronounced pah-tah-tah, free-tuh, foe-cah-shah-wich*): "Patata Frita" kettle chip-flavored ice cream created by Minnesota Dairy Lab, sandwiched between focaccia bread from Wrecktangle Pizza. Topped with a blend of honey butter, kettle chips and herbs.

At West End Creamery, located at West End Market, northwest section

PB Bacon Cakes: Thick-cut bacon dipped in pancake batter, griddled and topped with peanut butter whipped cream, grape jelly and banana chips. *At The Blue Barn, located at West End Market, south of the History & Heritage Center*

Raging Ball: Deep-fried sesame mochi (*pronounced moe-chee*) dough ball with vegan cheeseburger filling. Made with house-made vegan burger mix, vegan cheddar cheese, grilled onions and pickles. Topped with bacon-flavored powdered sugar. (Gluten-Friendly,Vegan)

At The Herbivorous Butcher, located in the Food Building, south wall

Savory Éclairs in Two Varieties: Choux (pronounced shoo) pastry éclair (pronounced ee-klehr) shell with choice of filling: Bánh Mì (pronounced bahn-mee) or Lobster.

Bánh Mì Éclair: Filled with pork confit (*pronounced cone-fee*), chicken liver pâté (*pronounced pah-tay*), pickled carrot & daikon (*pronounced die-cone*), cucumber and sriracha mayo, garnished with micro cilantro – inspired by a traditional Vietnamese sandwich.

Lobster Éclair: Filled with lobster meat, celery, mayo, Cholula (*pronounced chah-loo-luh*) hot sauce, lime, chives and salt & pepper, topped with dried corn and micro cilantro – inspired by a New England-style lobster roll. *At Scenic 61 by New Scenic Café, located on the east side of Underwood Street between Lee & Randall avenues, just south of Little Farm Hands*

Shroomy "Calamari": Oyster mushrooms hand-breaded and deep-fried. Served with a side of chipotle sauce. (Gluten-Free, Vegan) *At French Meadow Bakery & Cafe, located on the north side of Carnes Avenue between Nelson & Underwood streets*

Strawberries and Cream Waffle Stick: Belgian waffle filled with strawberry shortcake cookie dough, topped with whipped cream and strawberry sauce, and served on-a-stick. *At Waffle Chix, located on Judson Avenue between Liggett & Clough streets*

Strawberry Lemonade Donut: Hand-cut yeast-raised donut frosted with lemon buttercream, rolled in strawberry lemonade crunch, and garnished with lemon gummy candy and freeze-dried strawberry slice. Served with a strawberry lemonade-filled pipette to squeeze in more flavor. (Vegetarian)

At Fluffy's Hand Cut Donuts, located between West Dan Patch & Carnes avenues and Liggett & Chambers streets, south section

Swedish Ice Cream Sundae: Vanilla ice cream covered in lingonberry jam, sprinkled with Swedish ginger cookie crumble, and garnished with a ginger cookie heart. (Vegetarian) *At Salem Lutheran Church Dining Hall, located on the north side of Randall Avenue, just south of the Progress Center*

Swedish 'Sota Sliders: Hamline Church Dining Hall's Cranberry-Wild Rice Meatball formed into patties, paired with dill Havarti cheese and a red relish of beets, red onions, red peppers, lingonberries and cranberries, served on two brioche buns.

At Hamline Church Dining Hall, located on the north side of Dan Patch Avenue between Underwood & Cooper streets

Sweet Corn Cola Float: Minnesota-made sweet corn cola and sweet corn ice cream in a cup, finished with whipped cream, popping candy and house-made frozen caramel. At Blue Moon Dine-In Theater, located on the northeast corner of Carnes Avenue & Chambers Street

Sweet Heat Bacon Crunch: Double-smoked slab bacon tossed in RC's red barbecue sauce and topped with hot honey & chili crunch, served over a bed of white rice, and garnished with green onions. *At RC's BBQ, located on the north side of West Dan Patch Avenue between Liggett & Chambers streets*

Turkey Kristo: Minnesota-made Texas toast from Pan-O-Gold Bakery, sliced Ferndale Market turkey, CannonBelles white cheddar cheese, apple butter made from locally sourced Westcott Orchard apples, and house-made spicy brown mustard mayo, dusted with powdered sugar. (White Cheddar Kristo vegetarian option uses extra cheese instead of turkey.)

At Minnesota Farmers Union Coffee Shop, located on the north side of Dan Patch Avenue between Cooper & Cosgrove streets

Walking Shepherd's Pie: Two handmade hot pastries filled with braised ground beef, mashed potatoes and a blend of onions, carrots and peas tossed in herb gravy. At O'Gara's at the Fair, located on the southwest corner of Dan Patch Avenue & Cosgrove Street

Wrangler Waffle Burger: Fresh all-beef patty and signature Whataburger[®] Patty Melt Sauce layered with American cheese and served in a caramelized onion-infused Nordic Waffle. *At Nordic Waffles, located at West End Market, south section*

*NEW FOOD VENDORS:

Chan's Eatery: Chan's Eatery serves Korean corndogs (hot dog and mozzarella cheese, battered with panko, deep-fried and finished with a dusting of cinnamon sugar. Option to add a coating of fried potatoes or to substitute toppings for hot Cheetos[®] with spicy mayo); Mochi (*pronounced moe-chee*) donuts in eight varieties (original glaze, churro, cookies 'n cream, Fruity PebblesTM, chocolate, strawberry, matcha (*pronounced mah-chah*) and taro (*pronounced taa-row*)); Fruit and milk boba teas with optional tapioca and jelly toppings. *Located on the east side of Underwood Street between Murphy & Lee avenues* *New Vendor

El Burrito Mercado: El Burrito Mercado serves Quesabirria Taquitos (*pronounced kay-sah-BEER-ria and tah-KEE-toes*) (deep-fried, rolled tacos filled with beef marinated in red sauce & cheese, topped with salsa verde and crumbled cheese); Esquites (*pronounced es-KEE-tes*) (corn kernels cooked with herbs, topped with sour cream, crumbled cheese, chile powder and lime, served in a cup); and Agua de Sandia Loca (*pronounced san-DEE-ah, LOW-kah*) (watermelon drink with chamoy (*pronounced cha-moy*) and bits of seasoned dried mango). All items are gluten-friendly. *Located at the International Bazaar, south center section* *New Vendor

Kosharina (pronounced koe-shah-reenah) Egyptian Cuisine: Kosharina Egyptian Cuisine serves Koshari (pronounced koe-shah-ree) (rice, pasta, chickpeas, lentils, tomato sauce, garlicky vinegar "dakkah" (pronounced dahkkah) sauce, topped with fried onions) in three varieties (chicken, beef and vegetable); plus caffeine-free iced hibiscus tea. Koshari is gluten-free without pasta, and the vegetable variety is vegan. Located south of the Grandstand Building under the Grandstand Ramp *New Vendor **Loon Lake Iced Tea:** Loon Lake Iced Tea serves Official New Food Cotton Candy Iced Tea, plus a variety of brewed, naturally flavored, cane sugar-sweetened iced teas, including blood orange, blueberry, peach, strawberry and unsweetened.

Located on the west side of Underwood Street between Wright & Dan Patch avenues *New Vendor

Midtown Global Market's Indigenous Food Lab: Midtown Global Market's Indigenous Food Lab serves Official New Food Nixtamal (*pronounced nix-ta-mal*) & Wild Rice Bowl with Wóžapi (*pronounced woh-zjah-pee*) & Bison Meatballs or Sweet Potato Dumplings, with the option to add cricket & seed mix. All items are gluten-free. (Aug. 28 to Sept. 2 only)

Located in the Taste of the Midtown Global Market booth at the International Bazaar, east wall *New Vendor

Paella Depot (*pronounced pie-ay-uh*): Paella Depot serves Chicken & Chorizo Paella (traditional Spanish caramelized rice dish with leeks, red bell peppers, zucchini and snap peas, with option to add fried egg or seafood). Plus, aguas frescas in six flavors made from fruit puree, whole fruit, lime juice, agave and water. All items are gluten-free and dairy-free.

Located on the south side of Judson Avenue between Clough & Nelson streets *New Vendor

(Information subject to change. If fair guests have specific dietary restrictions or concerns, please ask the vendor prior to ordering.)

<u>Media use</u>: High-resolution, downloadable new foods photos are available for media use at the following link (please credit Minnesota State Fair): mnstatefair.org/get-involved/media/new-this-year/food/

Public use: To share new foods with the public, use this link: mnstatefair.org/new-this-year/food/

The Minnesota State Fair is one of the largest and best-attended expositions in the world. Showcasing Minnesota's finest agriculture, art and industry, the Great Minnesota Get-Together is 12 Days of Fun Ending Labor Day. The State Fair is financially self-supporting and does not receive government appropriation. Follow along on Facebook, X, Instagram and TikTok @mnstatefair for year-round updates. The 2024 Minnesota State Fair is Aug. 22 through Labor Day, Sept. 2. Visit mnstatefair.org for more information.

-MSF-