The Christkindlmarkets Chicago and Aurora Open On November 22

Expanded Festivities, Partner Giveaways, and Cultural Fun

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, August 6, 2024

Contact: Leila Schmidt | schmidt@GermanAmericanEvents.com | 312-585-8331

(CHICAGO and AURORA, IL) (August 6, 2024)

The Christkindlmarket is excited to announce the return of its beloved holiday tradition for its 28th season at Daley Plaza in Chicago and its third year at RiverEdge Park in Aurora. Both admission-free markets will open on November 22, 2024, featuring a delightful array of vendors and special events designed to create a festive and memorable experience.

<u>The Christkindlmarket Chicago at Daley Plaza</u>, located at 50 W Washington St, will be open daily from November 22 through December 24. The market hours are as follows:

- Sundays through Thursdays: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Fridays and Saturdays: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- Special Hours:
 - o Thanksgiving (Nov. 28) and Christmas Eve (Dec. 24): 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

<u>The Christkindlmarket Aurora at RiverEdge Park</u>, located at 360 N Broadway, will be open Thursdays – Sundays from November 22 through December 24, with the following regular and special hours:

- **Thursdays:** 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Fridays and Saturdays: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- **Sundays:** 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Special Hours:
 - o Thanksgiving (Nov. 28) and Christmas Eve (Dec. 24): 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 - o Monday (Dec. 16) through Wednesday (Dec. 18): 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
 - o Monday (Dec. 23): 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Daley Plaza will welcome back popular staple vendors along with new cultural German events to be announced in the coming weeks. The exclusive Chicago Preview Party, offering a more intimate experience before the market opens to the public, is scheduled for November 21. Those interested in attending should sign up for the Christkindlmarket newsletter to receive notification when tickets become available.

In Aurora, vendor participation will increase to over 55, featuring Chicago favorites like Chiya Chai, Bearhands & Buddies, and Syrin. The expanded offerings will include additional photo opportunities and family-friendly activities. For the first time, receptions can be booked inside the heated Timber Tent at RiverEdge Park, providing an ideal setting for company gatherings, family celebrations, and more. Booking inquiries can be made via the website. Aurora will also host returning family-friendly activities such as the scavenger hunt, glassblowing workshops, and the lantern parade.

Christkindlmarket enthusiasts should <u>follow the market on Instagram</u> for two exciting giveaways this week: one with Chicago <u>Hotel Sponsor Staypineapple</u> for a one-night stay, and another with the <u>Paramount Theatre in Aurora</u> for a pair of tickets to *Frozen*. Both giveaways include a pair of the cherished annual souvenir mugs. The design for these mugs, along with other 2024 merchandise, will be revealed next month.

The official beer sponsors for the 2024 Christkindlmarkets are Bitburger, Köstritzer, and Weihenstephaner.

Due to scheduling conflicts with Northwestern Football and the NHL Winter Classic at <u>Gallagher Way</u>, the Christkindlmarket will not take place in Wrigleyville this year. The organizers regret any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate the community's understanding. They look forward to returning to Wrigleyville in future years.

High resolution photos are available upon request (schmidt@germanamericanevents.com).

About German American Events, LLC

German American Events LLC, a subsidiary of the <u>German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest</u>, is a Chicago-based nonprofit organization that plans and executes the Christkindlmarket Chicago and Aurora. All locations are modeled after the classic German holiday market in Nuremberg, Germany, with traditional candy cane striped huts.

The free outdoor holiday markets host international and local vendors who display and sell handcrafted ornaments, toys, and special holiday gifts as well as traditional German foods, sweets, and beverages. The markets are rich in cultural tradition and include special events, entertainment and activities that are fun for the whole family.