

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Sweets & Meats BBQ Announces Sept. 12 Grand Opening of New Dine-In Restaurant in Avondale**

Cincinnati, OH — Sweets & Meats BBQ is excited to announce the grand opening of its new dine-in restaurant in Avondale. Located inside the Herald Building at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, the new location at 3440 Burnet Avenue, Suite 100, Cincinnati, OH 45229, will officially open its doors to the public on Wednesday, September 11, 2024. The restaurant will be open for dine-in and carry-out business Wednesday – Sunday 11a.m. – 8p.m. with online ordering available soon.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place on Thursday, September 12, 2024, at 10:30 a.m., including several high-profile speakers and guests, followed by regular operating hours. Featured guests at the ribbon cutting will include:

- Master of Ceremony: Tod Bowen, Managing Director of External Affairs and Government Relations, Ohio Restaurant & Hospitality Alliance
- Sadell Bradley, Program Director, MORTAR Cincinnati
- Eric Denson, Senior Development Manager, The City of Cincinnati, Department of Economic Development
- Brooke Lipscomb, Place Based Initiatives Manager, The City of Cincinnati, Office of the City Manager
- Meeka D. Owens, Council Member, Cincinnati City Council
- Nicole Pickard, Lead Economic Development Specialist, U.S. Small Business Administration
- Ebony Washington, Community Relations Manager, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Sweets & Meats BBQ is deeply invested in the community and will be hosting Family Day on Saturday, September 14, 2024 from 11a.m. - 8p.m. with music and activities all day. DJ Nate the Great will be spinning from 11a.m. – 3p.m. and Johnny Payne and the True Believers reggae band will perform 5p.m. – 8p.m. with an intermission so they can enjoy the BBQ themselves.

This exciting development coincides with Sweets & Meats BBQ's celebration of 10 years in business, marking a decade of serving the Cincinnati community with their signature slow-smoked meats, homemade sides, and desserts crafted from treasured family recipes.

Launched in 2014 by Kristen Bailey and Anton Gaffney, Sweets & Meats BBQ has grown from a small startup into a culinary powerhouse in the Cincinnati area. The restaurant, a certified women-owned business, is celebrated for its dedication to quality, community, and passion—a spirit that is evident in every bite of their offerings.

"We are beyond excited to bring Sweets & Meats BBQ to Avondale, especially in such a meaningful location," said Kristen Bailey, Co-Founder & CEO of Sweets & Meats BBQ. Anton Gaffney, Co-Founder & COO, shared that "as one of the only locally-based food options in this area, we're honored to bring comfort food to the dedicated employees and families at Cincinnati Children's Hospital, as well as the nearby Ronald McDonald House and the surrounding community. This new location represents a significant milestone for us as we continue to grow and give back to the community that has supported us from the very beginning."

Sweets & Meats BBQ's new dine-in restaurant will offer the same beloved menu items that have made it a Cincinnati favorite, including their award-winning smoked ribs, rib tips, brisket, chicken wings, pulled pork, and pulled chicken. Guests can also enjoy a variety of homemade sides such as mac & cheese, collard greens, and sweet cornbread, as well as indulgent desserts such as banana pudding and strawberry crunch cake.

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For photos of food, staff and new location: <https://bit.ly/Sweetsandmeats>

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#### About Sweets & Meats BBQ

Founded in 2014 by Kristen Bailey and Anton Gaffney, Sweets & Meats BBQ is a certified women-owned business dedicated to serving award-winning smoked meats, homemade sides, and desserts made from family recipes. With a focus on quality and community, Sweets & Meats BBQ has become a staple in the Cincinnati culinary scene. Sweets & Meats BBQ is a full-service caterer and operates three award-winning food trucks from their commissary kitchen in Mt. Washington, where they also leased new office space in 2024. They are excited to expand to Avondale.

Sweets & Meats BBQ is a Cincinnati Business Courier "2024 Best Places to Work" Honoree. The company has been chosen as a finalist for the 2024 John F. Barrett Entrepreneur Vision Award in the category of Minority and Women-Owned Businesses and nominated by the public for the 2024 Best Restaurant in Southern Ohio, an award presented by the Ohio Restaurant & Hospitality Alliance.

The company's General Manager, Johnny Payne, is a 2024 UC Goering Center Rising Leader Finalist, preceded by Billie Vega who was a recipient of the Grypp Rising Leader Award in 2023 and Anton Gaffney who received the award in 2020. They were voted "Best Food Truck" by Cincy Chic Magazine, "Best of the East - Best BBQ" by Cincy Magazine and Kristen Bailey made the Cincy Magazine Power 100 list for the first time this year.

In 2023, Sweets & Meats BBQ struck Gold in the Dessert Category at the Taste of Cincinnati and their Catering & Events Manager, Nicole Cline, won the award for "Best Behind-The-Scenes

Employee,” presented by the Ohio Restaurant & Hospitality Alliance. They were also featured in episode 5 on the 11<sup>th</sup> Season of the PBS Series, START-UP, which aired locally this year.

To watch the full episode, click on this link: <https://startup-usa.com/episodes/season-11/Sweets-Meats-BBQ-Anton-Gaffney-and-Kristen-Bailey-Cincinnati-OH>

Learn more at [[sweetsandmeatsbbq.com](https://sweetsandmeatsbbq.com)](<https://sweetsandmeatsbbq.com>).

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