



Press Release

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Relish the Region Brings Top Local Flavors Together for Inaugural Event

CEDAR RAPIDS – Relish the Region, a brand-new tasting event celebrating the culinary and cocktail creativity of regional restaurants, will debut Thursday, April 30, 2026, at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Cedar Rapids. The event will take place from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., with VIP admission beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Guests will enjoy an evening of crave-worthy bites, signature sips, and friendly competition as participating restaurants showcase their talents and compete for Best Bite and Best Cocktail. Attendees can sample their way through the event, discover new favorites, and vote for the top food and cocktail of the night. The evening will also feature a balloon drop celebration, with \$20 balloons offering the chance to win \$500.

Two ticket options are available.

The VIP Experience is \$120 and is limited to 100 tickets, with a maximum of 10 per order. VIP guests receive early entry at 5:00 p.m., one drink ticket for the signature cocktail, two bites or sips from each participating restaurant, two votes for Best Bite and Best Cocktail, and a commemorative event gift.

General Admission is \$80 and is limited to 300 tickets. General Admission guests receive entry from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., one bite or sip from each participating restaurant, and one vote for Best Bite and Best Cocktail.



Only 400 tickets are available for this inaugural event, and they are expected to sell out quickly. Relish the Region invites guests to come hungry and experience an unforgettable evening of local flavor. Taste the Region. One Bite at a Time.

Thank you to our host sponsor DoubleTree by Hilton, our Buy319 Local sponsor GreenState Credit Union, and our Full Plate sponsors, Coca-Cola Atlantic Bottling Company, Community Savings Bank, and Rapids & Affiliates.

For more information, to purchase tickets, and if your restaurant would like to participate visit cedarrapids.org.

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About the Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance

The Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance was formed in 2011 to drive economic growth for the region via economic development, public policy and regulatory support, and community development activities. Representing and supporting the Cedar Rapids Regional market the vision is to be the top economic region in the United States. For more, visit cedarrapids.org.