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For Immediate Release
Contact: Minda Honey, 502.536.8881, Hi@TAUNT.me

Taunt Launches Innovative Event Partnership with Community Organizations

LOUISVILLE, KY – [TAUNT](#), Louisville’s newest digital publication, announces [SPIRITSxSPIRITS](#), an event celebrating the release of their latest issue, [RITUAL](#), and their upcoming dining issue, [SPIRITS&PLATES](#), sponsored by the [LEE Initiative](#). TAUNT will bring together bourbon – our state spirit – and practitioners of the mystical arts – the spiritual – for one-night only.

To reimagine the stay-at-home experience, TAUNT is aligning with the creativity and resilience our local hospitality community, healers and distillers have tapped into this year. This singular experience is in partnership with over a dozen creatives, entrepreneurs and local businesses.

Prior to the event, guests will purchase and pick up a box filled with everything they need to be guided through a series of rituals and craft a custom Maker’s Mark cocktail. The box also includes an exclusive tea created for the event for a guided tea ritual by [Sis Got Tea](#) founder, Arielle Clark. Included in the kit are vouchers to redeem cocktails at [NoraeBar](#) in NuLu and [Trouble Bar](#) in Shelby Park. Trouble's own Felicia Corbett will lead the craft cocktail demonstration the night of the event.

The festivities begin at **6:30PM on Saturday, November 21st, 2020**. While the event is Zoom-based, there is an option for guests to upgrade their evening by renting one of NoraeBar’s private rooms and enjoying the experience with all-night bar service. Wiltshire Pantry’s food truck will be on-site serving up bites and plates and DJ SCZ will be on the NoraeBar stage setting a chill vibe with audio and visual elements livestreaming to our Zoom event.

Kelsey Westbrook, Beverage & Events Coordinator at NoraeBar says, “Our industry — and our staff — is made up of so many talented, diverse creatives, it only makes sense that establishments like ours and Trouble Bar would team up with the newest and brightest publication in our city. TAUNT features voices from our community, shedding light on issues in our community and beyond. This event will aim to showcase these voices, and allow our attendees to interact via ZOOM from the comfort of their homes or from our private rooms here at NoraeBar for an experience like no other.”

Nicole Stipp, Trouble Bar co-founder, agrees with Westbrook, “Taunt is exactly what this city needs: utterly fearless leadership in speaking to our reality. We’re thrilled to work with so many incredible folks, including our friends at NoRae Bar and the many talented writers and editors in TAUNT’s orbit, to contribute to an event that’s as innovative and beautifully thoughtful as every single thing they create and curate for our community.”

Minda Honey launched [TAUNT](#) July 1st and has since raised nearly 20K in a [crowdfunding campaign](#) hosted by [Queer Kentucky](#). The publication has a mission to publish diverse stories

and storytellers that more fully represent our community. TAUNT has received the attention of [Louisville Public Media \(WFPL\)](#), a 10K grant from [Press On](#), and Honey was selected as 1 of 24 members of the [Google News Initiative](#) inaugural startup bootcamp of local, independent news organizations.

In addition to crowdfunding, community-focused organizations have stepped up to support TAUNT's upcoming themed issues, like the LEE Initiative sponsoring their dining issue, "SPIRITS&PLATES." Beyond the issue, Lindsey Ofcacek, LEE Initiative Managing Director, says, "The LEE Initiative is so excited to be involved in this stellar event. We support TAUNT directly because their impact is necessary and profound, and in every detail they bring that support back around to our community, putting safety first while supporting small local restaurants and their employees. Rebuilding is a long-term process, and we need the kind of innovative approaches Taunt is using to change these landscapes."

"Like TAUNT, this event is only possible because there are a community of people in Louisville who support big dreams and visions that are broad enough to include us all. This event is just the beginning," says TAUNT founder Minda Honey.

About TAUNT

TAUNT is founded and led by a Black woman. We're a Louisville-local, indie outlet not filtered through the white male gaze. We're committed to 20% LGBTQ+ representation across writers, creatives, and service providers. Taunt is supported by donors and Queer Kentucky, learn more at [taunt.me](#).

About Trouble Bar

Flights, fancies and events for whiskey enthusiasts and the bourbon curious. beer, wine and margaritas for everyone else.

About NoraeBar

The name NoraeBar is a slang combination of the Korean word "noraebang" (song-room) and the English word "bar". Noraebangs are a staple of after-work fun and nightlife in South Korea. When many people think of karaoke (Japanese for "empty-orchestra"), they typically think of public room karaoke. [NoraeBar](#) offers Louisville both public karaoke and private song rooms!

Full List of Contributing Businesses

- The L.E.E. Initiative
- Maker's Mark
- Trouble Bar
- NoraeBar
- The Black Lotus
- Kim Reece Readings
- Sis Got Tea
- DJ SCZ
- Grid Principles
- Darcie Stuhlman, Event Coordinator