



SEATTLE AQUARIUM AND OVG HOSPITALITY **DIVE INTO NEW PARTNERSHIP**

Seattle Aquarium announces transformative partnership with Oak View Group's OVG Hospitality to enhance visitor experience, expand sustainability initiatives and increase private events

SEATTLE (January 17, 2024) – The [Seattle Aquarium](#), one of the top ten aquariums in the country, today announced the selection of [OVG Hospitality](#), the food and beverage division of [Oak View Group](#) (OVG), to redefine the culinary experience, increase sustainability initiatives, and grow the private events business at the Aquarium and the soon-to-open Ocean Pavilion. The partnership enhances the best-in-class experience for visitors and further establishes the Aquarium campus as a premier destination along Seattle's Historic Waterfront.

As the exclusive food and beverage provider, OVG Hospitality will offer its high-quality services to the Seattle Aquarium café, deliver booking and catering services for private events in the Seattle Aquarium and Ocean Pavilion, and focus on sustainability initiatives in food preparation and operations. A reimagined Seattle Aquarium café will be unveiled in Fall 2024.

"OVG Hospitality has an outstanding reputation for bringing a fresh and innovative approach to doing business, and we are excited to partner with them on enhancing our visitor experiences," said **Bob Davidson, President, Seattle Aquarium**. "Partnering with OVG Hospitality will enable us to seek and discover value through excellence and innovation in food service for all of our guests."

OVG Hospitality's commitment to sustainable practices and multicultural community engagement was a critical factor in the Seattle Aquarium's selection of OVG Hospitality for this new partnership, according to Davidson. Industry-leading initiatives include reduction of single-use plastic, water conservation, waste reduction, locally sourced ingredients, sustainable transformation of the back of house infrastructure and activation of OVG's Supplier Diversity Program, which is designed to be inclusive of a diverse collection of food and beverage suppliers.

"This is the perfect partnership as Seattle Aquarium shares our vision of providing best-in-class service with a focus on sustainable operations," said **Ken Gaber, President, OVG Hospitality**. "Along with enhancing the private event business, we look forward to evolving the Seattle Aquarium café into a destination within a destination by offering a variety of delicious food options and specialty items throughout the year."

As part of the new partnership, the Seattle Aquarium will become the first cultural attraction to become a member of GOAL (Green Operations & Advanced Leadership), a sustainability measurement program for arenas, stadiums, convention centers, cultural institutions, and other large-scale venues, of which OVG is one of the founding partners.

Gaber continued, “As a leader in sustainable venue operations, we will utilize our GOAL program to support data collection and analysis to reach our sustainability objectives. Climate Pledge Arena has set the standard for sustainable operations, and our goal is to execute a similar blueprint with Seattle Aquarium and Ocean Pavilion.”

Founded in 1977 and located on Pier 59 in the heart of Seattle, WA, the Seattle Aquarium serves as the largest platform for ocean conservation and engagement in the Pacific Northwest. With a mission of Inspiring Conservation of Our Marine Environment, it leads educational, conservation and regional research initiatives for a healthier planet.

With a commitment to sustainable practices and featuring locally sourced food options, OVG Hospitality offers a high-quality food and beverage experience at public assembly and cultural facilities worldwide including ZooTampa at Lowell Park in Tampa, FL as well as Footprint Center in Phoenix, AZ, home of the National Basketball Association’s Phoenix Suns; Mullett Arena in Tempe, AZ, home of the National Hockey League’s Arizona Coyotes and McCormick Place in Chicago, IL, the nation’s largest Convention Center.

In Washington state, OVG owns and operates Seattle’s Climate Pledge Arena, and manages and provides hospitality services at Angel Of The Winds Arena, the Edward Hansen Conference Center, the Lynnwood Event Center and Federal Way Performing Arts and Event Center. OVG is also leading the redevelopment of the Seattle Memorial Stadium.

About the Seattle Aquarium

Founded in 1977, the Seattle Aquarium is a conservation organization working to regenerate the health of Earth's one ocean. We work among global leaders to advance animal wellbeing, marine and ecosystem science, public policy, field conservation, education, and species recovery programs that benefit the ocean. Help support the Aquarium's mission of *Inspiring Conservation of Our Marine Environment*.

On the web: SeattleAquarium.org

On Facebook: facebook.com/Aquarium.Seattle

On Twitter: twitter.com/SeattleAquarium

On Instagram: instagram.com/seattleaquarium

On YouTube: youtube.com/seattleaquarium

About Oak View Group (OVG)

Oak View Group (OVG) is a global sports and entertainment company founded by Tim Leiweke and Irving Azoff in 2015. OVG’s mission is to be a positive disruption to business as usual in the sports, live entertainment, and hospitality industries. OVG is world-renowned as the leading full-service live entertainment and hospitality group, with 10 major new arenas either open or under development including: Climate Pledge Arena at Seattle Center; UBS Arena in Belmont Park, NY; Moody Center in Austin, TX; Acrisure Arena in Greater Palm Springs, CA; and CFG Bank Arena in Baltimore, MD; as well as arena development projects for Co-op Live in Manchester, UK; Anhembi Arena in São Paulo, Brazil; FirstOntario Centre in Hamilton, ON; a New Arena and entertainment district in Las Vegas, NV; and a New Arena in Cardiff, Wales. OVG360 is a full-service venue management, hospitality solutions, and venue services company servicing more than 400 arenas, stadiums, performing arts centers, culture institutions, and convention centers world-wide. More information at OakViewGroup.com, and follow OVG on Facebook, Instagram, X, and LinkedIn.

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