

"TOP CHEF" AND NOMA ALUM LUKE KOLPIN JOINS THE LODGE AT ST. EDWARD PARK TEAM AS EXECUTIVE CHEF

The Seattle native brings his Michelin-starred experience to the historic seminary-turned-hotel, with a focus on seasonal produce and the bounty of the Pacific Northwest



Chef Luke Kolpin, executive chef at The Lodge at St. Edward Park (Photo credit: The Lodge at St. Edward Park)

KENMORE, **Wash**. (**May 22**, **2023**) – <u>The Lodge at St. Edward Park</u>, a historic Northwest landmark transformed into an 84-guestroom hotel managed by Columbia Hospitality, announced today the appointment of Chef Luke Kolpin as executive chef. He will lead all culinary efforts at the fondly restored property and its three dining and bar outlets: Cedar + Elm restaurant, The Tonsorium Bar and Father Mulligan's Heritage Bar. Known for his love of seasonal produce, especially vegetables, Chef Kolpin will combine his globally inspired expertise with dedication to his Pacific Northwest roots

to create memorable experiences at each of the lodge's dining outlets. Kolpin is currently developing new menus and seasonal offerings that are anticipated to roll out in the months ahead, as well as training new and existing staff.

Chef Kolpin brings over 15 years of experience to The Lodge at St. Edward Park. A homegrown success story, he grew up in Seattle's Queen Anne neighborhood and studied culinary arts at Seattle Central College. He started his journey in 2008 by making a splash at Canlis, the city's landmark fine-dining destination, and continued his culinary career in the kitchen at Noma, the world-famous three-Michelin-star restaurant in Copenhagen, Denmark. In addition to refining his craft, Kolpin was responsible for training and mentoring intern chefs from all around the world, pushing the boundaries in "new Nordic" cuisine.

After eight years at Noma, working alongside some of the world's most celebrated chefs, Chef Kolpin made his way home to Seattle. In 2021, he was selected for season 19 of Bravo's "Top Chef," where he came in eighth place among a cast of fifteen accomplished chefs. Since then, Kolpin has dedicated his energy to fundraising and philanthropic efforts, specifically partnering with organizations in the Northwest that serve children with learning differences. He has a deep passion to ensure children with unique needs have the tools to develop core literacy skills and selfconfidence.

The Lodge at St. Edward Park occupies a historic former seminary building, built in 1931, and was restored after 40 years of sitting vacant. Kevin Daniels, preservationist and majority owner of The Lodge, had a vision to reflect the past while looking toward the future. As part of that, the former dining hall, where seminary students would sit for their daily meals, has been transformed into Cedar + Elm restaurant, an open-format kitchen and lounge with indoor and outdoor seating, serving sophisticated twists on Northwest favorites.

Both Cedar + Elm and The Heritage Bar are open for weekday breakfast and weekend brunch, as well as lunch and dinner service. The Tonsorium Bar is open daily for afternoon happy hour, dinner and late-night drinks.

Chef Kolpin will also oversee the culinary operations for all catering business for the hotel, which boasts over 9,000 square feet of indoor meeting space.

Dining and guest room reservations can be made at www.thelodgeatstedward.com.

###

ABOUT THE LODGE AT ST. EDWARD PARK

Nestled in a 326 acre waterfront state park on the shores of Lake Washington, and occupying a building originally constructed in 1931 as a seminary and designed by renowned architect John Graham, The Lodge at St. Edward Park opened in May 2021 as a sophisticated hotel, restaurant and spa nestled in a 326-acre forested park. Offering an unparalleled Pacific Northwest experience,

the hotel has been thoughtfully preserved and restored and features 84 guestrooms with original doors and windows, modern glass showers and natural stone elements. Cedar + Elm restaurant serves inspired Northwest cuisine, and two hotel bars mix handcrafted cocktails in the lobby and lower level. For those looking for the ultimate tranquil escape, Spa Vita Nova focuses on holistic, organic treatments with an eco-friendly sensibility. For more information on The Lodge at St. Edward Park, please visit www.thelodgeatstedward.com.

ABOUT COLUMBIA HOSPITALITY

Columbia Hospitality (Columbia) is a North American management and consulting company established in 1995 by founder and CEO John Oppenheimer. Its growing portfolio includes awardwinning hotels and resorts, premier residential communities, restaurants and bars, private and public golf clubs, conference centers, and distinctive venues. Columbia creates exceptional experiences for guests and team members while achieving phenomenal results for property owners. Columbia has also consulted on hundreds of hospitality projects worldwide, delivering a high level of customized service to partners and investors. For more information about Columbia and to view the entire portfolio, visit <u>www.columbiahospitality.com</u>.

MEDIA CONTACT

Joleen Zanuzoski GreenRubino, Public Relations for The Lodge at St. Edward Park E: joleenz@greenrubino.com