

Elevating Downtown Clearwater through Culinary Celebration – **Tasty Tampa Bay at Coachman Park**

Dear Downtown Development Board of Clearwater,

We are Michele Northrup & Atlas Cortecero, the husband-and-wife team behind Saucy Queen Events, and we are proud to present a brand-new signature experience for Downtown Clearwater — Tasty Tampa Bay, a one-day culinary celebration at Coachman Park on **February 21, 2026**.

Tasty Tampa Bay is designed to highlight the incredible food culture of the region while showcasing Downtown Clearwater as a vibrant destination for families, food lovers, and visitors from across Tampa Bay. This waterfront festival will feature local food trucks, gourmet artisans, culinary creators, specialty vendors, and small businesses, all coming together to showcase the boldest bites and tastiest treats our area has to offer.

Guests will enjoy a curated gourmet village of local artisans, Tampa Bay's best food trucks and craft food makers, live entertainment and interactive culinary contests, Family-friendly zones and activities and a diverse mix of retail, craft, and specialty vendors

For more than 18 years, Saucy Queen Events has hosted spirited, well-organized, and high-impact festivals across Tampa Bay — including Pinellas TacoFest, Watermelon Festival, I Like It HOT! Festival, Moon Market at The Tiki Cove, and Fall Y'All at Coachman Park — all of which have successfully drawn large crowds, boosted local business visibility, and increased community engagement. We are the founders of Tasty Tampa Bay community group with over 14,000 local active members. We aim to build a signature annual event that positions Downtown Clearwater as the home of one of the region's premier food festivals.

We are coordinating media engagement with Tampa Bay TV outlets, social channels, and local publications to spotlight the event, Coachman Park, and Downtown Clearwater as a top regional destination.

This grant opportunity would allow us to keep the event free to the public, reduce vendor participation fees, increase gastronomic offerings and family-friendly zone and strengthen marketing efforts to attract a wide-reaching audience.

Tasty Tampa Bay is more than a festival — it is a culinary celebration designed to energize the district, showcase local talent, and continue elevating Downtown Clearwater as a thriving community hub.

We would be honored to once again partner with the Downtown Development Board to bring this exciting new signature experience to life.

We look forward to continuing to build unforgettable community events together.

Warm regards,

Michele & Atlas

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