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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Mpls Downtown this summer: The best part is you.**

*Whether it is a return to play or return to office—or both—we'll see you downtown.*

**MINNEAPOLIS (June 1, 2021)** — Sunshine and summer are here, and mpls downtown is signaling a return to collective urban experiences. Whether you are returning to play, to work—or both—the downtown community is ready for you to take part in a dynamic lineup of events and programming.

The time is now to enjoy festivities in our city's core. Approximately 24 percent of downtown's workforce has returned to the office this spring, and three distinct return-to-office waves are being planned: After Memorial Day, after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, and after Labor Day.

Couple that with downtown's 53,000 residents and many entertainment venues adding capacity and events, and we have the recipe for a vibrant summer downtown. The best part is you. See you Downtown.

"Across all industry sectors, our downtown community is collectively working together to create converging events that will add to your overall experience while you're here this summer," said Steve Cramer, president & ceo of the mpls downtown council. "We are ready to be together again, and there will be ample opportunities to enjoy multiple activities while you're downtown this summer."

A variety of events and activities await you, including:

- **Twins games at Target Field**
- **Lynx games at Target Center**
- **Live concerts at First Avenue, The Armory, Target Field and more**
- **Minnesota Orchestra concerts at Orchestra Hall**
- **Patio happy hour specials**
- **Downtown Thursdays including Nicollet Farmers Market + Makers Market**
- **Live MNSpin concerts, yoga and games at Peavey Plaza**
- **Pianos on Parade**

"This is such an exciting time as we look ahead to audiences returning to Orchestra Hall," said Michelle Miller Burns, President & CEO of the Minnesota Orchestra. "We are so excited to welcome our patrons back not only to experience live music with the Orchestra but to enjoy the full downtown experiences—a walk along Nicollet, a few moments enjoying the Peavey Plaza fountains, and perhaps a patio seat. These are the collective experiences we've missed and look forward to again this summer."

While downtown, enjoy your favorite restaurants or try one of several new spots that opened this spring. More than 300 restaurant and retail locations are open for full or partial hours, and more are scheduled to open this summer. Some of the recently opened or re-opened stores

include 112 Eatery, The Butcher's Tale, Afro Deli, Bar La Grassa, Coconut Whisk, Fuzzy's Taco Shop, Sistah Co-Op, Snack Bar, and Whiskey & Soda.

"Downtown's vitality is critical to our fans' experience coming to Lynx games this summer, so we know how important it is for us to work collaboratively with the business community to ensure a series of great experiences during their trip to Target Center," said Ethan Casson, Chief Executive Officer for the Minnesota Timberwolves and Lynx. "We are all in with our partners on helping create fun and vibrant experiences each time our fans return."

The mpls downtown calendar includes upcoming events and can help you plan your next visit. Check out the calendar, plus learn more about walking tours, green space, your long overdue staycation and more at [www.mplsdowntown.com](http://www.mplsdowntown.com).

**About the mpls downtown council**

Founded in 1955, and one of the most historic central business associations in the nation, the mpls downtown council (mdc) is a membership-based entity that works to create an extraordinary downtown. The mdc's collaborative developments of *Intersections: The Downtown 2025 Plan* was designed to help downtown businesses, community leaders and citizens build on downtown assets and implement future goals. For more information, please visit [mplsdowntown.com](http://mplsdowntown.com).

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