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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Coconut Whisk Café to celebrate Grand Opening on Thursday in Young Quinlan street-level space

MINNEAPOLIS (May 19, 2021) — Bella (Nhi) Lam, Founder & CEO of Coconut Whisk, announced today the much awaited **Coconut Whisk Café** Grand Opening will take place TOMORROW, Thursday, May 20 in its new street-level space inside the historic [Young Quinlan Building](#) at 81 S. 9th Street (Suite 120).

A Minnesota local, immigrant and first-generation college graduate of the Mission-Driven, Vegan and Gluten-Free brand, Coconut Whisk, is bringing a new venture to the heart of Downtown Minneapolis.

“We are thrilled to welcome Coconut Whisk to the Young Quinlan Building,” said Robert Greenberg, president of The 614 Company. “It is an opportunity for us to help bring an up-and-coming local business to the heart of downtown. We are looking forward to seeing folks on Nicollet Mall stopping by and enjoying what Coconut Whisk has to offer.”

Lam is partnering with the mpls downtown council, Chameleon Consortium & Impact Hub MSP to bring this space to life alongside her partner, Myles Olson.

Coconut Whisk Café will be serving up Mini Pancakes & Waffles on a Stick, handcrafted drinks like Boba/Bubble Tea, and will feature a retail space dedicated to BIPOC, Womxn and/or Locally owned brands. The cafe will have a 100 percent vegan and gluten-free menu, and a totally adorable mural.

“Coconut Whisk is the latest example of how incredible local small businesses continue to thrive, and we want those businesses to be part of the downtown community,” said Steve Cramer, president & ceo of the mpls downtown council. “Chameleon Shoppes is again helping facilitate retail space in our city’s core, and we couldn’t be more excited to see Coconut Whisk grow and shine on Nicollet.”

Regular operating hours will be Thursday to Sunday 9-2 pm starting May 20. They will extend the days and hours of operation in 2022.

“In May 2018, I launched Coconut Whisk at farmers’ markets as a struggling college student, Lam said. “Three years later, to be able to launch our brick and mortar in the same month

feels like a full circle moment. May is also Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage month so it feels extra emotional after such a difficult year for the BIPOC community.”

The Grand Opening will include a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony beginning promptly at 12:00 PM. There will be giveaways and specials throughout the Grand Opening Weekend, Thursday, May 20th to Sunday, May 23rd from 9-2 pm.

“The very best part about business is the relationships you form,” Lam said. “From working with Erinn Farrell from The Coven to Vegan Chef, Marisol Herling—this project has been a labor of love with the help of many talented and incredible people.”

Coconut Whisk Café is the second permanent retail shop that Chameleon Shoppes helped facilitate opening this month. On May 1, [Sistah Co-Op opened in the IDS Center skyway](#).

All are welcome to attend the [Grand Opening event](#). Please keep in mind masks will be required and the cafe will be following social distancing guidelines.

[Click here](#) for high-quality shareable creatives and images.

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 www.mplsdowntown.com.

About Chameleon Consortium

The Chameleon Consortium is a private-public group dedicated to the experiential and economic vitality of downtown Minneapolis. An initiative of the mpls downtown council, our purpose is to create vibrant downtown experiences by transforming empty retail spaces into equity opportunities for BIPOC- and women-owned businesses. We’re passionate about opening up business opportunities that may not have been possible before. We’re thrilled to be a part of an evolving downtown that evokes inclusive interest, attraction and pride. For more information, visit www.chameleonshoppes.com.

About The 614 Company

The 614 Company is a family owned and operated entity, primarily engaged in the ownership and management of commercial real estate. The real estate includes mixed use, office, retail, industrial, and parking facilities, which are principally self-managed by the Company. In addition, its wholly-owned subsidiary, Real Estate Strategies LLC is engaged on a fee basis to assist in the analysis, strategy and implementation of commercial real estate matters on behalf of third party clients.

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