



**May 9, 2016 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

For more information, contact:

Kristin Varella, Development Director, [kristin@lotusfest.org](mailto:kristin@lotusfest.org), 812-336-6599

## **17<sup>th</sup> Annual “Edible Lotus” Benefit Features Local Tastes in Support of Global Arts**

BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA -- Now in its 17th year, the [Edible Lotus Benefit Event](#) will bring arts-lovers together on June 9th for local tastes in support of global arts. This gala evening is the premier fundraising event for the non-profit [Lotus Education & Arts Foundation](#), providing critical underwriting for Lotus’s flagship multicultural arts programs such as Lotus Blossoms Educational Outreach and the Lotus World Music & Arts Festival. With donor support, these programs engage ~20,000 participants annually in powerful global encounters that change the lives of children and adults alike.

Gathered on the beautiful grounds of Deer Park Manor, Edible Lotus attendees will enjoy delectable food and drink from Bloomington’s best chefs and brew-masters, alongside artfully curated silent and live auctions. Tempting items to take home include stained-glass and sculptures, sports and arts outings, family adventures, custom catering experiences, and even a New Orleans getaway. Between bids, attendees will relish a sumptuous menu featuring tastes from 15-20 of the finest restaurants in town, including Uptown Café, Samira’s Restaurant, Darn Good Soup, and BLU Boy Chocolates. Artisanal libations and a mischievous Lotus jester will round out the evening. A full list of confirmed restaurant sponsors is being continuously updated at [www.lotusfest.org/lotus-benefit-event-2016](http://www.lotusfest.org/lotus-benefit-event-2016).

Through tickets and auction purchases, Edible Lotus attendees take a leadership role in sustaining and growing the Lotus mission: to create opportunities to experience, celebrate, and explore the diversity of the world’s cultures, through music and the arts. All proceeds from Edible Lotus help ensure that Lotus can continue offering free and low-cost arts experiences and outreach initiatives that are accessible to participants of all ages, abilities, backgrounds, and incomes.

Edible Lotus takes place on Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, at 6pm at Deer Park Manor (1501 E. Hillside Dr., Bloomington). Tickets are on sale now at [www.lotusfest.org](http://www.lotusfest.org), or by calling 812-336-6599. Tickets are \$100/person or \$600/table; a portion of every ticket is tax-deductible. 21 and older only; capacity is limited.

More information at: [www.lotusfest.org](http://www.lotusfest.org)

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*Lotus Education & Arts Foundation*

[www.lotusfest.org](http://www.lotusfest.org) / 812-336-6599 / [media@lotusfest.org](mailto:media@lotusfest.org)

*PO Box 1667, Bloomington, IN 47402*