



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HOMETOWN FESTIVAL PICKLESBURGH NEEDS YOUR HELP TO DEFEND ITS TITLE AS #1 IN THE U.S.A.

**Reigning Champion Nominated for 2nd Year in a Row
as Best Specialty Food Festival in the Country by USA TODAY**

Picklesburgh and Pittsburgh Take on Challengers from Houston, Miami, Chicago, and more

**City Primed for Repeat of Last Year's Sustained Voting Effort
That Succeeded in Making Picklesburgh #1**

Downtown Picklesburgh, PA – After a tremendous victory in 2019, Picklesburgh once again needs your vote to keep the festival of all things pickled and the city of Pittsburgh #1! Following its largest year ever, USA TODAY has once again nominated Picklesburgh as one of the best specialty food festivals in the country, with voting for the top position happening daily through Monday, March 2 at 10best.com/awards/travel/best-specialty-food-festival/picklesburgh-pittsburgh/.

In its first five years, Picklesburgh has proven to be a really big “dill,” attracting media attention and visitors from across the country and around the world, as well as being recognized as a signature event across Pennsylvania.

People are asked to get behind Team Picklesburgh and get out the vote by encouraging friends, family, classmates, and co-workers to vote every day to keep Pittsburgh in the top spot. Pickle enthusiasts can find shareable photos, updates, and reminders via the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Additionally, a link to vote and more information can be found at Picklesburgh.com.

Last year, Pittsburgh's pickle fanatics were primed to bring their briny spirits to the online voting challenge. Through four weeks of dill-iberate voting, Picklesburgh rose to the top to beat out the competition of food festivals in Baltimore, Miami, Houston, and Albuquerque to be named the #1 Specialty Food Festival in the Country. This year, the competition is expected to be fiercer than ever and includes challengers from Houston, Miami, Chicago, and more.

Picklesburgh has attracted national and international attention with coverage including the Today Show, Good Morning America, Fox News, Washington Post, Boston Globe, Travel+Leisure, Thrillist, and TV stations across the country. The power of the pickle is well-traveled, too: Pennsylvania recognizes it as a signature event, and it has received global attention including coverage in a UK foodie magazine spotlighting it as one of the most interesting food festivals around the world.

Over the last two years, this increasingly popular free festival has expanded from two to three days and doubled its footprint to better accommodate the crowds it attracts. Picklesburgh will return to Downtown in 2020 and is expected to include new components and even more pickled fun. The Pittsburgh Picklesburgh Downtown Partnership looks forward to sharing more details soon.

About Picklesburgh

With something for everyone from pickle fanatics to just the pickle curious, Picklesburgh is an annual festival that celebrates pickling in all its glorious incarnations. For three days in July, the Roberto Clemente Bridge (6th Street Bridge) in Downtown

Pittsburgh transforms into Picklesburgh, highlighted by a giant flying pickle balloon custom built by a team that also crafts balloons for Disney and the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade.

Produced by the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership, and presented by Heinz, Picklesburgh is a culinary celebration that goes beyond the dill pickle to include international dishes, artisan cocktails, and handcrafted foods from local chefs that feature house-cure pickled vegetables; informative how-to demonstrations which embrace the farm-to-table movement and the rising popularity of DIY canning; fun merchandise; live, local music; a "Li'l Gherkins" area with free children's activities; and even a competitive pickle juice drinking contest. More information about Picklesburgh can be found at www.picklesburgh.com.

About the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership

The Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership (PDP) is a dynamic, nonprofit organization comprised of business and community leaders, property owners, civic organizations, foundations, and residents who provide energy, vision, and advocacy for Downtown Pittsburgh. Working collaboratively with its partners, the PDP strives to create a positive Downtown experience for residents, workers, and visitors alike. The PDP's strategic initiatives include clean and outreach services, mobility and transportation, economic development, and advocacy. For more information, visit DowntownPittsburgh.com, and follow @DowntownPitt on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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