



“A Taste of The Driskill” Celebrates Hotel’s History *The Driskill Invites Community to View Renovations, Enjoy Festivities*

AUSTIN, TX—Aug. 7, 2008—The 122-year-old Driskill Hotel is saying “thank you” to the citizens of Austin and all of Texas for their support and devotion to the hotel with a community open house on August 30. *A Taste of The Driskill* celebrates more than a century of history as Austin’s landmark hotel, as well as the completion of a \$4 million renovation of the property’s 189 guestrooms.

A Taste of The Driskill, which continues from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday, August 30, includes live music, samplings from the award-winning Driskill Grill and 1886 Café & Bakery menus, wine tasting, children’s activities, ghost tours of the hotel, and exhibits of “Driskill Love Stories” and of original artwork reflecting area artists’ renditions of the iconic hotel. As that day is also opening game day for the University of Texas Longhorns, the Driskill Bar—consistently named as Austin’s number one hotel bar—is hosting a Texas Tailgate party.

Another highlight of the day is the Driskill Pie Bake-off. A panel of judges, comprised of local food journalists and chefs, will select a winning recipe to feature on the 1886 Café & Bakery’s menu as the restaurant’s signature pie for the next year. In addition to being featured on the dessert menu, the winner also receives a \$500 gift certificate and other personalized mementoes. Entries are being accepted through August 15. The application form and guidelines are available on the hotel’s website, www.driskillhotel.com. Announcement of the winning pie will be at 1:30 p.m. in The Victorian Room.

Community input is also being sought for the “Driskill Love Stories” exhibit. Long recognized as one of the most romantic places in Texas, The Driskill is a favorite destination for weddings, anniversaries and marriage proposals. Hotel staff is collecting romance stories to feature in the exhibit, as well as for the launch of a new website, www.ourdriskill.com. Anyone who would like to share their own romantic memories at the hotel or stories passed through generations of their family can email those to bengel@destinationhotels.com.

Opening festivities begin at 10 a.m. with a proclamation of “Driskill Day in Austin.” The ceremony also includes a birthday cake honoring the 100th birthday of President Lyndon Johnson. The Johnson family’s legacy is intertwined with the history of the hotel. LBJ and Lady Bird had their first date at The Driskill. Over the years, he awaited the returns from all his campaigns, including historic wins on the ticket with John Kennedy and then as the presidential nominee himself, at the hotel.

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Photos available of newly remodeled rooms

Media Contact: Cynthia Maddox

512-391-7038; cmaddox@destinationhotels.com