



GERMAN AMERICAN EVENTS, LLC

Announcing Christkindlmarket Naperville 2016

The Famed Christkindlmarket Chicago to Open Second Location at Naper Settlement in 2016

For Release: May 19, 2016

NAPERVILLE, Ill. – A beloved holiday tradition is coming to Naper Settlement in Naperville. The Christkindlmarket Naperville will offer people who live in the western suburbs a chance to experience a traditional German holiday market with all of the sights, sounds and magic as well as delicious smells and treats, wonderful handmade ornaments and gifts. Traditional wooden huts will be filled with one-of-a-kind gifts including woodcarvings and delicious German delicacies harkening back to the original Christkindlesmarkt in Nuremburg, Germany, which began in 1545. The Christkindlmarket Naperville will open on Friday, Nov. 25 and on 21 select days in November and December it will transform the village square at Naper Settlement into a picturesque marketplace.

The Christkindlmarket Naperville joins the Christkindlmarket Chicago this holiday season. Since its inception in 1996, the Christkindlmarket Chicago has become a holiday staple for Chicagoans and visitors alike. The market, organized by German American Events, LLC., a subsidiary of the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest, Inc., is one of the largest and most authentic of its kind outside of Europe.

“The Christkindlmarket team is thrilled to announce that this year’s suburban Christkindlmarket will be at Naper Settlement,” said Maren Biester Priebe, General Manager of German American Events, LLC. “This new location offers an exciting opportunity for the market, which is free and open to the public, to expand and grow. Visitors will experience the traditional wooden huts with candy cane-striped canopies filled with goodies sold by some new and some popular vendors who are seen at the Chicago market on Daley Plaza. The Christkindlmarket Naperville will provide visitors with the festive atmosphere and charm that can be found at the original Chicago market, just a bit closer to home.”

Announcing Christkindlmarket Naperville 2016

May 19, 2016

Page 2

“Our partnership with the Christkindlmarket team is exciting and the venture fits perfectly with Naper Settlement’s mission of promoting the historic culture and significance of the great city of Naperville,” said Macarena Tamayo-Calabrese, President and CEO of Naperville Heritage Society and Naper Settlement. “The market will enhance an already festive atmosphere provided by Naperville Sunrise Rotary’s annual Naper Lights, during the holiday season. We are so excited to provide a home to this spectacular cultural event and look forward to watching this partnership grow in years to come.”

Naperville Mayor Steve Chirico said, “The Christkindlmarket’s history and popularity will continue to add to the prestige of the City of Naperville, making it the state’s premier suburban holiday destination. Hosting the market here helps add to the influx of visitors to our area during the holiday season and gives the Naperville community and our local businesses and partners a chance to shine even brighter.”

“The City of Naperville is wonderfully suited for an event of the caliber of the Christkindlmarket. Located along the high-tech corridor of DuPage County, Naperville is easily accessed and already boasts a thriving visitor industry with its many hotels, beautiful parks, the Riverwalk and bustling downtown district,” said Beth Marchetti, Executive Director of the DuPage Convention & Visitors Bureau. “This additional attraction helps promote the city to a larger population who can see the market and experience all that Naperville has to offer.”

“The Naperville Convention & Visitors Bureau is thrilled about Christkindlmarket coming to Naperville. The venue at Naper Settlement provides the perfect backdrop for Christkindlmarket, both are steeped in history and tradition and both provide fun and entertainment. Naper Settlement offers an array of activities year-round, and the Christkindlmarket is one more reason to visit and celebrate the holidays in Naperville,” said Christine Jeffries, President of the Naperville Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Announcing Christkindlmarket Naperville 2016

May 19, 2016

Page 3

ABOUT CHRISTKINDLMARKET NAPERVILLE

The Christkindlmarket Naperville at Naper Settlement is free and open to the public Thursdays through Sundays beginning Nov. 25, with special extended opening days and hours leading up to Christmas Eve. Approximately 40 vendors will line the walkways and be nestled within the confines of Naper Settlement's scenic grounds. The market will feature walk-in structures that house vendors as well as provide a place for visitors to step out of the cold, relax, shop, eat and quench their thirst with imported German beers or Glühwein (hot spiced wine) in a unique collectable souvenir mug. Visitors will be delighted by live performances as singers, dancers, and musicians will spread the holiday cheer. The Christkind, a fairy-like being and namesake of the market, will visit every Sunday to welcome guests.

ABOUT NAPER SETTLEMENT

Naper Settlement is a family-friendly outdoor history museum featuring 12 acres of learning and interactive opportunities for all ages. Located in downtown Naperville, Naper Settlement is just steps away from dining, shopping and the Riverwalk. Visitors are immersed in history as they learn about the past and how it relates to the present. Highlights include special events, programs and activities year-round. Each year, 140,400 visitors, including 35,000 northern Illinois schoolchildren, experience hands-on history at Naper Settlement. For more information, visit napersettlement.org

ABOUT GERMAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE MIDWEST

The German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest (GACC Midwest), headquartered in Chicago with a branch office in Detroit, was founded in 1963. Our continuing mission is to further, promote, and assist in the expansion of bilateral trade and investment between Germany and the United States, especially in the Midwest. As part of this, GACC Midwest has been supporting the founding and development of the Christkindlmarket Chicago, a unique event combining German-American business and culture, since 1996. GACC Midwest is an integral part of the network of German Chambers of Commerce Abroad (AHKs) with 130 offices in 90 countries around the globe. Our organization combines elements of a trade commission, a membership association, and a professional consultancy quite a unique concept in international trade promotion. For more information, please visit gaccmidwest.org

Announcing Christkindlmarket Naperville 2016

May 19, 2016

Page 4

ABOUT THE MARKET

Christkindlmarket Naperville

Naper Settlement

523 S. Webster St. Naperville, IL 60540

<u>Dates & Times of the Christkindlmarket</u>	<u>Special Dates</u>
<u>Naperville</u> Friday, Nov. 25 – Saturday, Dec. 24 - Thursdays 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. - Fridays & Saturdays 11 a.m. – 9 p.m. - Sundays 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.	- Monday, Dec. 19 - Friday, Dec. 23 11 a.m.- 9p.m. - Christmas Eve (Thursday, Dec. 24) 11 a.m.- 4p.m.

Admission is always FREE!

For dates and times of the Christkindlmarket Chicago visit: <http://www.christkindlmarket.com/>

###

Christkindlmarket Naperville media information:

For more information visit the official website at: www.Christkindlmarket.com/Naperville

Press kits and press releases at: www.christkindlmarket.com/media/

Direct Media inquiries to: Kate Bleeker, 312-644-3785 or bleeker@GermanAmericanEvents.com

High Resolution photos and HD video are available upon request