



Bar Pilar Adds a Second Floor Dining Room and Doubles Seating Availability with Spring 2011 Expansion Plans

WASHINGTON, DC (December, 2010) – Mid-city gathering place Bar Pilar is excited to announce expansion plans which will grow the space from a one level, 49 seat eatery, to a two level dining spot with the existing bar on the lower floor and a dining room on the top floor. The expansion is slated for completion in spring 2011 and will double Bar Pilar’s current occupancy and seating.

Considered by Washington, DC diners to be a hidden foodie gem disguised as a bar, Bar Pilar is a hot spot with a lot of local love. The only complaint? It can be sometimes difficult to find a table for diners in the perpetually busy restaurant and bar. *“The expansion is a result of a couple factors. For one, the space above Bar Pilar became available. Also, we have listened to customers and understand from their feedback that there is just not enough seating,*” says John Snellgrove, Director of Operations at Novel Foods, the management group behind Bar Pilar and sister eatery, Café Saint-Ex.

The expansion will create a 2nd level dining room, accessible by stairs which will be located at Bar Pilar’s entrance. The dining room will feature table seating and a full menu of creative cuisine by Chef Justin Bittner. The upstairs dining room décor will remain consistent with Bar Pilar’s eclectic design, and will feature a wall adorned in antique stained doors, ornate Cuban tiles and unique art from local artists.

To accommodate for the increased dining room availability, Bar Pilar will be expanding their current 4-burner kitchen to double in size, allowing for increased volume. As for Bar Pilar’s menus, *“they will not change,”* says Justin Bittner, Executive Chef. *“The new kitchen will allow our team to expand upon current creativity and serve several more diners during dinner.”*

The architecture firm designing the new dining room at Bar Pilar is Logan Circle-based firm StudioSmith. Led by principal Bill Smith, StudioSmith was founded in 2008 on the principle that smart design, contextual cohesion and modern technology can yield great architecture accessible to everyone. StudioSmith takes inspiration from modern culture, local history, detailed craftsmanship, and economies of scale, use and budget. StudioSmith is smart design for modern life. More information about StudioSmith is available online at <http://studiosmith.com>.

Currently in the space which will become Bar Pilar’s dining room is Raven Arts, a loved gallery run by renowned artist Regina Miele. **Novel Foods is excited to announce that they will be teaming up with Miele to open a multi-use art gallery space on 14th street in spring 2011.**

About Bar Pilar

Bar Pilar is a neighborhood friendly restaurant and bar in the Mid-City area of Washington, DC that takes a fresh approach to dining and cocktails. Bar Pilar's eclectic menu is inspired by supporting local farms and New American cuisine. The restaurant's focus is fresh, seasonal, and organic produce. Their simple yet adventurous dishes satisfy a wide range of palates and add a unique touch to the neighborhood. More information on Bar Pilar can be found online at www.barpilar.com.

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