



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Middle Eastern Eatery Adds Spice to 'International Flavor' of Downtown Hollywood

HOLLYWOOD, FL – September 30, 2009 – The culinary diversity of Downtown Hollywood will be enhanced with the opening in October of Taboulli Restaurant, a casual eatery specializing in authentic Middle Eastern cuisine.

Taboulli will offer counter service and table seating in a relaxed atmosphere at 1719 E. Young Circle, in the Publix Shopping Center in the heart of Downtown.

Quick-service convenience will be combined with a unique dining experience that features Middle Eastern specialties that are popular with American diners – including falafels, kibbehs, chicken or beef kebabs, stuffed grape leaves, wrap sandwiches, and hummus with pita bread – as well as less familiar fare.

The reasonably priced menu also will include baba ghanoush, an Arabic dish of eggplant mashed and mixed with various seasonings; sfihas, a type of meat pie; fatoush, a Lebanese bread salad featuring vegetables and pieces of toasted pita bread; chickpea salad; Middle Eastern desserts; and the restaurant's namesake dish, taboulli, a wheat salad made of parsley and bulgur.

Taboulli proprietor Giselle Mahfuz signed the lease for the 2,930-square-foot space with property owner Equity One on March 31st. Equity One is a fully integrated real estate investment trust specializing in the acquisition, asset management, development and redevelopment of quality retail properties located in strategic metropolitan areas across the country.

The addition of Taboulli Restaurant further reinforces the culturally diverse character of Downtown Hollywood, where local restaurants offer an international menu of Asian, Caribbean, European, French, Greek, Irish, Italian, Latin, Mediterranean, Mexican and, of course, American cuisine.

Mahfuz, a Hollywood resident for about seven years, called the Downtown District a natural fit for her new business.

"I love Hollywood. My life is here in Hollywood," she said. "This is a good place to start a new business. I think people are very open to this new experience."

Taboulli Restaurant will be open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily beginning in late October. For additional information, call 954-922-5115.

For more information on Downtown Hollywood businesses or events, call 954-921-3016 or visit www.downtownhollywood.com.

The Hollywood Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) was created under the authority of Florida's Community Redevelopment Act of 1969. The CRA's mission is to encourage economic development through the use of tax increment financing by funding development, special projects and enhanced services that address areas of community concern. The Downtown District was established in 1979 to promote Hollywood's central business district including Historic Hollywood Boulevard, Young Circle and nearby residential neighborhoods. The Downtown District is approximately 580 acres and extends from 22nd Avenue on the west to generally 17th Avenue on the east, Johnson Street on the north and Washington Street on the south.

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