For Immediate Release

CHEF JASON WILSON ANNOUNCES BELLEVUE RESTAURANT OPENING

New Restaurant & Bar in Lincoln Square Expansion & W Bellevue slated for 2017

Bellevue, WA—Nov. 17, 2015—Chef Jason Wilson today announced an agreement with Kemper Development Company and Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. to open a restaurant in the upcoming Lincoln Square expansion and forthcoming hotel, W Bellevue. The James Beard Award-winning chef, who earned national acclaim for his first restaurant, Crush, also owns Seattle's wood-fired steakhouse, Miller's Guild, a consultancy business, and is executive chef of Coffee Flour. Adding to his culinary repertoire, the Bellevue restaurant, yet to be named, is slated to open in summer 2017.

The restaurant will evoke a modern take on the spirit of the Pacific Northwest farmhouse, from design to menu. Balanced and refined, the produce-driven menu will be dictated by the seasonal, local bounty of the region, reinterpreted by Chef Jason Wilson in his signature style of simple, clean and fresh cooking.

The overall project's contemporary Northwest concept and design also takes form in a vibrant, destination cocktail bar in W Bellevue. Speakeasy meets sophisticated playhouse, the bar will feature craft cocktails and a cocktail-driven food menu with exclusive lounge areas - the backdrop for a vibrant music and arts scene.

Creating a concept and menu from a sense of place, Seattle-based design and architecture firm, Graham Baba, will work with Chef Jason Wilson to capture a space reminiscent of a Pacific Northwest farmhouse, with a modern approach and sensibility. The restaurant and bar will complement the hotel's cutting-edge design. Chef Jason Wilson will work with Public Library on the restaurant's branding.

The restaurant will be part of Kemper Development Company's Bellevue Collection, which draws regional residents and visitors, alike.

"We're thrilled to partner with Chef Jason Wilson on our upcoming expansion of Lincoln Square. He brings a culinary prowess and affinity for unique, local, forward-thinking cuisine to another level for The Bellevue Collection," said Howard McQuaid, Vice President Leasing and Development, Kemper Development Company.

The restaurant will reside on the second floor of W Bellevue and the bar on street level, located on Bellevue Way between NE 4<sup>th</sup> and NE 8<sup>th</sup> Streets. The restaurant will be open throughout the day and provide food and beverage service for the hotel's 245 modern guestrooms, including 25 suites and an Extreme Wow Suite® (the W brand's reinterpretation of the traditional Presidential Suite), as well as the 231 luxury rental residences.

## About Chef Jason Wilson

Chef Jason Wilson is a James Beard Award-winning chef and one of *Food & Wine* magazine's Best New Chefs. In addition to his new Bellevue restaurant slated for opening in 2017, Chef Jason Wilson is partner and executive chef of Miller's Guild restaurant and Chef Jason Wilson

Catering, executive chef of Coffee Flour, and runs his own culinary consultancy business. His first restaurant, critically acclaimed CRUSH, received local and national awards and positioned Chef Jason Wilson as a leader in Northwest cuisine with innovative techniques. Visit <u>ChefJasonWilson.com</u> and follow <u>@ChefJasonWilson</u> on Instagram.

## About The Bellevue Collection/Kemper Development Company

Located in the heart of Bellevue, Washington, <u>The Bellevue Collection</u>, owned by Kemper Development Company, includes Bellevue Square, a super-regional upscale shopping center, Bellevue Place, a mixed-use property featuring the Hyatt Regency Bellevue and small boutiques and Lincoln Square, anchored by the Lincoln Square Cinemark theaters, restaurants, home furnishing stores and The Westin Bellevue hotel. With a distinctive collection of 250 of the finest shops, 30 sit-down restaurants, a 16-screen premier cinema, 1,100 luxury hotel rooms and 10,000 free retail parking spaces, all in one location, The Bellevue Collection is a shopping, dining and nightlife and entertainment experience unlike any other in the region. It is located on Bellevue Way between NE 4th and NE 10th Streets in downtown Bellevue, just across Lake Washington from Seattle. For more information on the Lincoln Square Expansion, visit the Lincoln Square Expansion site.

## About W Hotels Worldwide

W Hotels is a contemporary, design-led lifestyle brand and the industry innovator with 47 hotels and retreats, including 17 W-branded residences, in the most vibrant cities and exotic destinations around the world. Inspiring, iconic, innovative and influential, W Hotels provides the ultimate in insider access, offering a unique mix of cutting-edge design and passions around fashion, music and entertainment. With more than 15 years of proven success, W Hotels is on track to reach more than 60 hotels by 2018. W Hotels have been announced for Shanghai, Tel Aviv, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Amman, Jakarta, Panama, Muscat, Suzhou, Changsha, Chengdu, New Delhi, Kuala Lumpur, Shenyang, Marrakech and Brisbane, while upcoming W Retreats include Goa, Phuket, Hainan Island and Mexico's Riviera Maya. For more information, visit <u>whotels.com</u> or follow <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Facebook</u>.

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