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NORTHERN LIGHTS HOLIDAY FESTIVAL RETURNS TO INCLINE VILLAGE/CRYSTAL BAY

(INCLINE VILLAGE, Nev.) December 2, 2020 --- The communities of Incline Village and Crystal Bay, NV, will host the return of the annual Northern Lights Festival, now through December 31, 2020. Highlights include the prestigious Tahoe Film Fest and a variety of safe and seasonal events that include a "Northern Lights Family Day," "Light up The Night" holiday lights tour, a "Santa Stop" at the Chateau, "Sweet Cozy Chalet" at Sierra Nevada University, a traditional performance of a "Mini-MESSIAH" by the TOCCATA Tahoe Symphony, and New Year's Eve concert with Diggin-Dirt at the Crystal Bay Club & Casino.

"This holiday season will be alive and well this year," said Linda Offerdahl, co-organizer of the Northern Lights Festival. "The family-friendly activities will all be organized under the Washoe County COVID 19 Guidance program so we can all safely enjoy these local holiday events."

Reservations for some of the events are required. A complete calendar and more information can be found at NorthernLightsTahoe.com.

From December 3rd through the 6th, <u>Tahoe Film Fest</u> will offer various programming that focuses on the environment. According to its organizers, the Film Fest locates new and important environmental films to showcase everyone's efforts to maintain the beauty of Lake Tahoe and its surroundings. Tahoe Film Fest also celebrates a section of American Independent Films, new films from Latin America, and a Filmmaker Tribute. All proceeds from Tahoe Film Fest benefit <u>UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center (TERC)</u>.

On Saturday, December 12, everyone can get into the spirit for the season by participating in a variety of events within the "Northern Lights Family Day."

Families are invited to drive through a winter wonderland at the "Santa Stop" at the Chateau in Incline Village where they will be greeted by the Elves, see Santa and Mrs. Claus and pick up their free Santa Kit that includes cookies for Santa, Reindeer food, hot cocoa mix and other holiday goodies.

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Children are encouraged to bring pre-written letters for Santa to drop in the North Pole Express Mailbox located at the end of the drive-through. The one-way drive through will be clearly marked with vehicles entering the at the west end and exiting at the east end of the parking lot. This event is being produced and sponsored by the Incline Tahoe Foundation and Incline Village Parks and Recreation Department. To adhere to State safety requirements, participants must be Incline Village/Crystal Bay residents. See the event website for complete details.

During this same afternoon and evening Northern Lights Family Day, <u>Sierra Nevada University</u> is hosting their "Sweet Cozy Chalet" on the Patterson Hall patio. Families are encouraged to come by and enjoy free S'mores and holiday music.

Just down the street, the Hyatt Regency welcomes everyone to stop in and see their magical "Gingerbread Village" display. This is the perfect spot for a classic family holiday photograph.

Throughout the month of December, locals and visitors alike can watch the local businesses "light up the town" and take the Northern Lights Driving Tour to see colorful lighting displays within the business communities and neighborhoods. Maps can be downloaded at NorthernLightsTahoe.com or picked-up at the D.G. Menchetti Visitor Center in Incline Village, NV.

Northern Lights is sponsored by the <u>Incline Village Crystal Bay Visitor Bureau</u>, <u>IVGID Parks and Recreation Department</u>, and the newly formed <u>Incline Village Crystal Bay Association</u> (IVCBA) that is dedicated to bring businesses and nonprofits together for advocacy and to create a more cohesive community.

"We are honored to receive a marketing grant from Incline Village Crystal Bay Visitors Bureau for this annual community celebration," said Offerdahl, who extended her gratitude to all the partners and businesses who are involved in Northern Lights. "Without their interest and support, we would not have been able to continue this community-wide collaboration. Here's to a very Merry Christmas and happy and prosperous New Year ahead from the Northern Lights Steering Committee!"

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