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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Galveston's Own Farmers Market Announces Honoree and Headlining Sponsor for 11th Annual "OkraFest" Fundraiser Gala

Galveston, TX [June 4, 2025] - Galveston's Own Farmers Market (GOFM), a leading nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting local foods and fostering community connections, has announced Steven J. Baines as the honoree of the upcoming 11th annual OkraFest Gala. Allan Matthews & Family are the Headlining Sponsor. The event will take place on Saturday, August 2, 2025, at 7:00 PM at The Lyceum in Galveston.

Steven J. Baines is a former President of GOFM's Board of Directors and a longtime friend of the organization.

"I'm overwhelmed and blessed with gratitude to be named the 2025 OkraFest honoree. From volunteer to board president, I've witnessed firsthand how GOFM is more than a market--it's a joyful, inclusive community that educates, celebrates, and connects people through local, healthy food and a deep sense of belonging. Thank you, Casey, and GOFM, for this honor!"

As the "Kinda a Big Dill" Headlining Sponsor of the OkraFest Gala, Allan Matthews & Family are committed to supporting initiatives that enrich the lives of Galvestonians. They align with GOFM's work of elevating quality of life for the local community and empowering youth and families through the power of food.

This year's event is set to be a memorable evening of celebration and support for GOFM's crucial programs and initiatives. The Gala aims to raise funds for GOFM's annual programming, which includes the weekly Farmers Market, Young Gardeners Program, Real Food Project, Victory Gardens Program, and various food access initiatives.

Tom Schwenk and TGRE Coldwell Banker are the "24 Carrot Gold" VIP Event sponsor; their support ensures a memorable experience for guests during this special hour of the Gala with first looks at auction items, specialty cocktails, and more. VIP hour will take place on Saturday, August 2, 2025, at 5:00 PM. Our other spectacular event sponsors include Kristin & David Finklea as "Feeling Saucy" Food & Drink Sponsors, Kleen Supply Co. as the "Turnip the Beets" Entertainment Sponsor, Rochkind Insurance as the "Lettuce Get You Home Safe" Safe Rides Sponsor. Chef Mary Bass will provide the farm to table fare and spirits and craft beer from Daiquiri Time Out and Galveston Island Brewing will round out the toasts and cheers.

To learn more about the Annual OkraFest Fundraiser Gala, including ticket information and sponsorship opportunities, please visit www.okrafestgalveston.com.

About Galveston's Own Farmers Market:

Galveston's Own Farmers Market (GOFM) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to connecting the community to local foods. Through their year-round weekly farmers markets, food access initiatives, school gardens, and health and food education opportunities, GOFM strives to build a sustainable local food community. They promote a vibrant, producers-only marketplace and improved food access while offering educational programming to empower individuals to make healthy food choices. For more about Galveston's Own Farmers Market, visit www.galvestonsownfarmersmarket.co/.

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