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DANK Haus to Celebrate Spring and Raise Funds with Maifest Fundraiser

Chicago, IL — May 5, 2021 — For centuries, certain regions in Germany have marked the coming of spring with a Maibaum, or a Maypole, decorated with handmade trinkets and wrapped in ribbons. With the large waves of German immigrants to the Midwest, the tradition caught fire in Chicago. In fact, there is a multi-story tall Maypole just outside the Western Brown Line station donated by our sister city, Hamburg Germany.

This year, the COVID-19 pandemic has forced the cancellation or change of many of our favorite events. The cancellation of Maifest Chicago for a second year in a row due to the ongoing pandemic is a big disappointment to the DANK Haus and the Lincoln Square community. “The Maifest festival is our number one fundraising event of the year. With the festival being cancelled two years in row, the financial impact is significant,” states Marco Heuer, DANK Haus Board President. For this reason, the DANK Haus has decided to hold a Maifest Fundraiser at the Haus with a fundraising goal of \$18,000. You can expect to see all of the traditional food and fun of Maifest. All proceeds will benefit educational and cultural programs at the DANK Haus, your community cultural center since 1959!

The DANK Haus in Lincoln Square is presenting an alternative to celebrate this annual festival, and will be offering a Maifest Fundraising event on the evening of Saturday, June 5th. This event will feature fest favorite foods catered by Himmels, German beer and wine, live musical entertainment by The Paloma Band of Chicago, and a silent auction. One key difference in our event this year is that your food and drink are included with your ticket. While this event will not have the crowds of the traditional outdoor Maifest, the DANK Haus is looking forward to celebrating spring in a way that will protect guests, volunteers, and staff. Attendance at the fundraiser will be limited according to COVID-19 mitigation requirements to ensure social distancing and masks will be required.

For those wishing to ring in spring from the safety of their home, the DANK Haus will offer a “Maifest in a Box” for purchase on their online store which feeds 6-8 people and includes one package each of cooked Bratwurst, Thüringer Sausage, Knockwurst, Foot-long Franks, Regular Franks, an eight pack of Landjäger, Hengstenberg mini Gherkins (12.5 oz), Hengstenberg Sauerkraut (14 oz), Black Forest Spätzle (16 oz), Alstertor Stein Mustard (8.45 oz), and a special Maibowle punch recipe - everything you need to celebrate Maifest at home!

“While the Maifest fundraiser will not recoup the estimated \$75,000 in losses, it will still allow for the celebration of spring and our uniquely German American traditions,” says Monica Jirak, Executive Director of the DANK Haus. This event is generously sponsored and made possible by our sponsors including The Schuler Foundation, Corkill Insurance, Binny’s Beverage Depot, and Dentons US LLP. We are still looking for additional sponsors to help offset the costs of this event. We are looking for both monetary and in-kind sponsorship and donations. If you are interested in sponsoring or donating for the event, please contact rosa@dankhaus.com.

The DANK Haus German American Cultural Center is located at 4740 N. Western Avenue in the heart of the Lincoln Square neighborhood of Chicago. The cultural center is a cornerstone for German American culture and the community at large.

EVENT DETAILS

Maifest Fundraiser

Date & Time: Saturday, June 5th, 6:00-10:00pm

Locations: DANK Haus 5th Floor, Marunde Ballroom

Website: <https://dankhaus.com/Maifest2021>

Details: <https://dankhaus.com/event-4254103>

About the DANK Haus German American Cultural Center

The DANK Haus German American Cultural Center is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization committed to preserving and promoting German and German American culture, heritage, and language through maintaining a language school, museum, library, art gallery, and through educational and social programming. It is located in Chicago's historically German neighborhood, Lincoln Square. Core programming includes a German Language School for

children and adults, rotating Fine Arts and Museum exhibits, monthly Open Haus, Kulturküche Cooking Classes, Kino, Kaffee und Kuchen, Public Event Viewing Parties, Oktoberfest and more. The DANK Haus is a core member of the Chicago Cultural Alliance – a consortium of ethnic museums, cultural centers and historical societies whose mission is to effect social change through cultural diversity



More information:

www.dankhaus.com