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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## Silverton Christmas Market Named 2023 Festival of the Year by Oregon Festivals and Events Association

Hotel overnight packages are now available to experience the award-winning event's 1+ million lights, snowless tubing, authentic German vendor market, Santa and more | Nov. 22 – Dec. 31, 2024

*Silverton Christmas Market* - Silverton, Ore. -- The <u>Silverton Christmas Market</u> is thrilled to announce its latest accolade: winning the prestigious <u>Oregon Festival and Events Association's</u> 2023 Festival of the Year Ovation! Award.

"We are incredibly honored to receive the Festival of the Year award from the Oregon Festival and Events Association," said Rex Gamaney, Event Manager of the Silverton Christmas Market. "This recognition is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our team, as well as the unwavering support of our community."

The Silverton Christmas Market, known for its enchanting holiday ambiance inspired by European Christmas Markets, has become a beloved tradition for guests of all ages. This past year, the event featured twinkling displays of more than 1 million lights, an artisan vendor market featuring handmade German goods, visits with Santa, live music, snowless tubing, festive food and drinks inspired by Germany, and plenty of holiday magic.

While this esteemed recognition highlights the Market's ability to create magical holiday memories for families, it also focuses on the Market's positive impact on the community. The Market continues to

provide donations to various local non-profits (including Silver Fall School District, Silverton Area Community Aid, Habitat for Humanity, and more) and the ability to drive tourism during a traditionally slow time to benefit local shops, restaurants and lodging.

"Each year, we strive to improve and create a memorable experience for everyone who attends, and we're so grateful for the families who come to celebrate the holidays with us," said Gamaney. "The event continues to grow, and while it might seem early, we're encouraging everyone to plan their getaway before <u>2024 overnight packages</u> sell out!"

The Oregon Festival and Events' Festival of the Year award is highly competitive, recognizing events that demonstrate excellence in organization, innovation, and overall attendee experience. The Silverton Christmas Market stood out among its peers, showcasing its commitment to delivering a festive celebration that delights attendees of all ages. As the recipient of the Festival of the Year award, **the Silverton Christmas Market continues to solidify its reputation as one of Oregon's premier holiday destinations.** The market extends its gratitude to the attendees, volunteers, vendors, and sponsors who have contributed to its success over the years.

Booking an <u>overnight package</u> is the perfect way to get in the holiday spirit and experience the magic of Christmas with your loved ones. **As a bonus, you won't have to worry about parking or taking a shuttle!** 

This <u>special package</u> includes:

- Entry to the Silverton Christmas Market for each person on the package
- Parking at the Resort for one vehicle (skip the shuttle!)
- Overnight accommodations
- Breakfast the next morning

Follow the Market's <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Facebook</u> pages to be the first to know when 2024 event tickets are available. For more information about the Silverton Christmas Market and upcoming events, please visit its <u>website</u>.

## About Silverton Christmas Market:

This event has become a beloved family tradition over the past decade, but it was not always called the Silverton Christmas Market. In 2021, the event had its first year named the Silverton Christmas Market, and the year before, it was called Lights at the Oregon Garden Resort and prior to that, the event was held in The Oregon Garden's Rediscovery Forest as Christmas in the Garden. Since the Resort's parent company, Moonstone Hotel Properties, no longer manages The Oregon Garden, the event now resides on the grounds of the Oregon Garden Resort. This has been a positive change for the event, bringing a longer and more intimate walking path, a one-way path to ease the flow of traffic and varied landscaping to make one million lights even more spectacular. The new Silverton Christmas Market aims to focus on its German heritage and gathers inspiration from authentic German Christmas Markets, with collectible mugs; traditional lebkuchen (gingerbread hearts) and gluhwein (mulled wine); artisan vendors; a booth selling imported handcrafted German nutcrackers, smokers and ornaments; and a light section dedicated to Krampus - the wicked German counterpart to St. Nicholas.

The Silverton Christmas Market aims to support the community of Silverton through donations to the school district, local non-profits and discounted admission for Silverton residents to experience the magic. We're proud to have been awarded Silver for the <u>Best Charity Event</u> by the Best of the Willamette Valley 2022 Awards. If your non-profit organization is interested in partnering with the Silverton Christmas Market, you're encouraged to reach out to the Marketing Specialist, Heather Collora at heatherc@moonstonehotels.com.

About Moonstone Hotel Properties: <u>Moonstone Hotel Properties</u> started in 1983 with the building of the Sea Otter Inn in Cambria, Calif. From there, the family-owned company went on to open garden-themed properties in Oregon and California. Today, Moonstone Hotel Properties owns the Sea Otter Inn, Cambria Pines Lodge, the J. Patrick House & Inn, Cambria Nursery and Florist, The Monterey Hotel, and Oregon Garden Resort. Moonstone Hotel Properties remains committed to retaining a reputation for exquisite boutique hotels with beautiful grounds in West Coast destinations.