

# MCCRADY'S

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **CHARLESTON EVENT PLANNER, CHRISTY LOFTIN, JOINS MCCRADY'S RESTAURANT** *Loftin brings a wealth of knowledge and innovative ideas to the table as the Director of Private Events*

**ATLANTA (October 1, 2008)** – Seasoned event planner Christy Loftin joins Charleston's culinary gem, McCrady's Restaurant, in time for the fall social season. With literally hundreds of corporate events and weddings to her credit, Christy Loftin is a well-respected and seasoned Charleston event planner. Serving as the new Director of Private Events, Loftin brings to McCrady's her expertise and experience from her previous positions including Associate Director of Special Events from 2002-2008 for the Charleston Place Hotel, the South Carolina Internal Trade Conference, Renaissance Weekend, Spoleto Festival USA, Brookgreen Gardens Annual Gala, Family Circle Cup Tennis, and Historic Charleston Foundation. "A restaurant is really a meeting place where art, history, politics, culture and community gather to celebrate life. We are thrilled to welcome Christy and have her continue to share McCrady's attributes with our guests," comments David Howard, Operating Partner.

"Loftin is at the top of the event management profession in the region; she brings to McCrady's her passion and knowledge of the industry – we are thrilled to have her join us," said André Jean-Pierre Guillet.

A South Carolina native, Christy Loftin is well-connected in the Charleston area, where she is an active member of St. Michaels Episcopal Church, the Junior League of Charleston, the Association of Bridal Consultants, and the Travel Council. She is active on several local USTA tennis teams and is a current member of the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce. Loftin has previously served as President of the 63-member National Association of Catering Executives and President of Board of Directors for the Footlight Players, South Carolina's oldest continuously- running community theater company.

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## **MCCRADY'S RESTAURANT – SAMPLE PRIVATE SPACES**

***The Chef's Room*** affords a more intimate relationship between the guest and the sommelier and chef. The room is used exclusively for private occasions and guests who require the utmost in service and, at times, discretion (i.e., hidden pocket doors and a separate entrance off East Bay Street). Mahogany paneling and a Baccarat crystal chandelier embrace the inlaid mahogany dining table that seats 12. Chef Sean Brock carefully crafts the menu with guests prior to arrival and plates courses on fine bone china. Sommelier Clint Stone serves the wines in Riedel Sommelier Series glassware.

***The Long Room***, as the grand second story dining room is referred, is a picture of the past. The room has striking 15-foot ceilings offering views of historic Unity Alley. Elegant and gracefully-styled, this room has hosted many Charleston weddings. George Washington, while on his Southern Tour, dined in the room in 1791. Since the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the Long Room has set the standard for fine dining spaces in the American south.

***The Gallery Room***, McCrady's newest restoration effort, opens October 2008. Overlooking Charleston's own Restaurant Row, East Bay Street, the Gallery Room offers exposed brick walls, original hardwood floors, and 14 foot ceilings. Three tall windows let in streaming natural light during the daytime and allow beautiful views of the streetscape as the evening sun sets. The room is the most versatile of the McCrady's private spaces collection – from masculine bourbon-based dinners to haute couture cocktail gatherings, memories are sure to be made here.

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## **MCCRADY'S RESTAURANT**

Architecture and design combine to produce modern, sophisticated style in a 229-year old setting, providing the perfect home for Chef Sean Brock's innovative dishes created with modern technique and the finest locally-grown ingredients available. The impressive cuisine is beautifully complemented by the restaurant's historic charm and its promise of quiet and gracious Southern hospitality. McCrady's Restaurant is located at 2 Unity Alley in the heart of downtown Charleston and is open Sunday through Thursday, 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., and Friday and Saturday, 5:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. McCrady's Restaurant was named in 2008 by Opinionated About Dining (OAD) as one of the top 10 restaurants in North America. The restaurant maintains the AAA's Four-Diamond Award and earned the 2008 Wine Spectator "Best of Award of Excellence."

For reservations or additional information, call 843.577.0025 or log onto

<http://www.mccradysrestaurant.com>. Contact Director of Private Events, Christy Loftin, at 843.577.0025 ext. 2, or by email at [events@mccradysrestaurant.com](mailto:events@mccradysrestaurant.com), to set up an appointment or to book your next function.

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