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**EASTWARD HO!**  
**Knitting Factory Entertainment (KFE) and the Buckhead Group**  
**Partner to Bring Landmark Brand Eatery El Tejano, Brewery and Bar Concept**  
**To Denver**

**The Best of Tex-Mex Cuisine, Handcrafted Margaritas, Craft Beer and Good Times**  
**Roll Deep into the Heart of Denver with Local Staff and Management**

*Denver, CO, January 13, 2020*—Nationwide entertainment and hospitality group **Knitting Factory Entertainment (KFE)** and Los Angeles' **Buckhead Group** are thrilled to announce that they have partnered with San Francisco-based **Fillmore Capital Partners** to redevelop two LoDo bars and restaurants and a cooking school at 1941 Market Street, in the shadow of Coors Field, into three brand-new bar and restaurant concepts: El Tejano, Loaded, and Smash Face Brewery & Tap Room. The venues, occupying the sprawling 25,000 square foot space boasting a 10,000 square foot rooftop, are operated as the Tavern Downtown, Cowboy Lounge and Cook Street School..

Knitting Factory Entertainment is a national entity which comprises multiple concert venues, restaurants, bars, a hotel and a brewery; music and hospitality management agencies; record labels and media properties. They are also a premiere boutique booking agency who buys talent for venues across the U.S. and co-produce the landmark annual alternative music festival Desert Daze in the California desert. The Buckhead Group are principally restaurant and bar operators with more than a half dozen venues across Los Angeles including wine bars, craft cocktail bars and more. Together, the two companies operate three El Tejanos and a bar/gastropub called The Thirsty Merchant in Los Angeles.

The team is bringing the best of the Southwest to Denver with the innovative yet traditional top-notch food, drink and games that made the original **El Tejano** in North Hollywood, CA, which opened in 2016, a bustling favorite. The Denver Tex-Mex outpost promises to be as big and bold as the Rocky Mountains. They'll be serving up Tex-Mex classics like grilled Mexican street corn, Frito pie, tacos from land, air and sea of all shapes and sizes, burritos, enchiladas, a Southwest quinoa bowl and even Carne Asada Tater Tots—along with their famous free self-serve chips and salsa bar.

Like the partners' other restaurants, the team has created a superb craft beer list, import and domestic alike, and an extensive selection of tequilas, mezcals and specialty margaritas. Look behind the bar for house-made micheladas, tequila mules, and margarita varieties from the skinny (Flaca-rita) to the activist (Cesar Chavez, house-infused Jalapeño). The best part? They consider *all day every day* happy hour at El Tejano with a gigantic "Rocky Mountain" sized for a mere \$2 more.

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The brick façade and industrial windows of the 1941 Market building in Denver are reminiscent of El Tejano's original building in North Hollywood, which was an auto repair shop.

The location's **Smash Face Brewery & Tap Room** incorporates KFE's learnings and expertise gleaned from its participation in Los Angeles Arts District Brewery BOOMTOWN, which opened three years ago come Super Bowl 2020. Smash Face Brewery and Tap Room will feature a local Denver brew master delivering craft brews, each bearing the name or inspiration from the many "smash faced," dogs, such as "Pug Porter," "Boxer Belgian," "Shih Tzu Sour," "Pekingese Pilsner," and, well, you get the idea—along with eclectic menu choices. The brewery plans on making regular donations to local canine shelters and rescues.

Finally, the team will launch **Loaded**, a beautifully brash, 80's style rock and roll bar serving up cheap drinks, music theme nights and throwback vinyl, among other offerings. Altogether, the venues are expected to accommodate almost 600 guests. These three concepts are tentatively scheduled to launch later in 2020.

"As with our other venues around the country, we're coming to Denver to join the community," says KFE CEO Morgan Margolis. "We hope to make all our hires, from line staff to management to the brew master, from the local community. We think there are tremendous opportunities in LoDo—one of the city's oldest neighborhoods yet so close to Denver's star attraction, Coors Field. Public/private partnerships have made the Ballpark area one of Denver's key entertainment districts."

"After the success we've enjoyed developing the El Tejano brand so far," concludes Buckhead's PJ Brill, "We had hoped for a while to expand the brand outside our home base of Los Angeles, and Denver seemed ideal for us to launch eastward. It doesn't hurt that I have family in town as well! We are hoping everyone will love the bold designs, the great eating and drinking opportunities, games and of course, a great queso in Denver. We're looking forward to bringing a new concept to the LoDo neighborhood that people may not have even known they wanted, but after one visit, they'll wonder how they ever did without it."

## **About Knitting Factory Entertainment**

Founded in 1987 with its first venue opening in New York City, Knitting Factory Entertainment ([www.knittingfactory.com](http://www.knittingfactory.com)) is a creative producer, manager and distributor of universal music content, film/TV and theatrical events.

Today, KFE comprises: two Federal gastropubs; three Knitting Factory concert venues; partnerships with Boomtown Brewery, The Regent Theatre and Arrive Hotel Palm Springs; a partnership with The Buckhead group in four restaurants; a partnership with Brooklyn-based indie label Partisan Records; Knitting Factory Management; Selby Artist Management; Giant Step Marketing and Media, and the Connect Group. KFE also owns the tastemaker web property, The Talkhouse.

KFE's national touring and promotions arm Knitting Factory Presents has also expanded its footprint. Booking national acts across multiple states including, but not limited to Memorial Stadium, Idaho and Big Sky Brewery Amphitheatre in Montana, these two venues present approximately 25 shows and serve more than 100k fans outdoors annually. KFP also has contracts Slowdown, NE; The Myth, MN; Criterion OKC, OK; and Elevation 27, VA, as a talent buyer. Recent partnerships have also included Rachel Ray's Feedback in Chicago, Hortons Hayride in California, the just-completed Desert Daze Festival in Moreno Valley, CMoore Concerts in the Pacific Northwest, and many others.

## **About Buckhead Group**

The Buckhead Group is one of Los Angeles' premiere dining and nightlife group. Established in 2003, TBG has worked to bring innovative and exciting concepts to the eating and drinking landscape of Los Angeles. The founders of TBG have a combined 60 years of experience in the food and beverage industry. TBG has developed and opened several concepts and multiple units over the past 15 years. They brought Big Wangs, LA's first genuine sports bar, to market in 2005. It was an instant hit and was followed by three more local units. TBG went on to open Loaded, a rock and roll bar including an intimate live music venue. Next was Topsy Cow, TBG's take on the modern neighborhood burger joint. Two subsequent locations followed. The next concept was El Tejano which is a classic Tex-Mex boots on the table hangout. That concept now has two locations. Scum and Villainy Cantina is an intergalactic bar nestled in the wretched hive of Hollywood. This sci-fi driven bar immerses the guest in another booze-filled galaxy. TBG also developed and operates Thirsty Merchant, a bastion of hospitality offering handmade cocktails and great vittles to all comers.

## **About Fillmore Capital Partners**

Fillmore Capital Partners ([www.fillmorecap.com](http://www.fillmorecap.com)) is a private investment company with principal focus on entertainment, healthcare, lodging, multifamily housing and other specialized real estate investments. Fillmore Capital Partners and KFE have previously partnered for the True Music Room & Bar, a concert venue located in the Cambria Nashville Downtown.

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