

**DINE AFTER DARK**  
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## PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

### **DC RESTAURANTS CAN NOW DINE AFTER DARK FOR FREE**

**Washington, D.C.** – Dine After Dark, a non-profit organization working to improve consumer services for Muslim Americans during the Islamic holiday month of Ramadan, is offering complimentary first-year membership to all new businesses signing up to participate in Dine After Dark’s first “season” this upcoming Ramadan, from May 5 – June 4, 2019.

“Our mission is to build inclusive communities through better business practices,” says Dine After Dark’s President and Founder, Katherine Ashworth Brandt, “That means being inclusive when it comes to our own practices as well, by making it as easy as possible for businesses to participate in our movement.”

During Ramadan, Dine After Dark members will stay open at least two hours past dusk each evening or open two hours before dawn, or both, to accommodate Muslim consumers who observe traditional holiday fasting during daylight hours. This spring, while daylight lasts from 6:00am to 8:30pm, participating businesses will open as early as 4:00am or keep their kitchens open until at least 10:30pm, depending on the business. This allows Muslim consumers to conveniently celebrate the season and “Dine After Dark.”

Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, is an important holiday celebrated by 3.5 million Americans and 1.6 billion people worldwide, many of whom fast each day from dawn until dusk as part of the tradition. The holiday cycles through the standard Gregorian calendar ten days earlier each year, meaning some years – like 2019 – daily fasting lasts long hours, as the sun rises earlier and sets later in the day. This can leave Muslim consumers with limited options during Ramadan – a problem Dine After Dark aims to solve.

“Offering your customers special accommodations during the holidays is not a new idea,” explains Brandt, “We want the traditions of Muslim consumers to be treated with the same respect and holiday cheer as we afford to other celebrations. Inviting your customers to Dine After Dark is good for businesses, good for customers, and good for our communities, and we invite all of DC to join our movement.”

Dine After Dark’s first season will be celebrated during Ramadan, May 5 – June 4, 2019. Businesses can claim their year of free membership at [www.DineAfterDark.org/Join](http://www.DineAfterDark.org/Join).

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