

# Koi Poke Breaks Ground on Restaurant No. 2 and Announces Ten Additional Valley Locations

*Building on its instant success, Phoenix Magazine's Best of the Valley Winner, Koi Poke is expanding its exciting new brand to twelve new valley locations.*

SCOTTSDALE, AZ, USA, November 21, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Koi Poke broke ground today on the second Koi Poke restaurant in Arizona following a summer-long property acquisition and renovation plan. The first-ever Koi Poke quietly opened its doors in May of this year in North Scottsdale's DC Ranch Crossing but quickly found itself in the spotlight after being awarded Phoenix Magazine's 2017 Best of the Valley Award and receiving rave reviews from its guests. CEO and Co-Founder Sarah Elizabeth herself, prepared delicious Poke Bowls and served the very first Koi Poke customers.

After retiring from a successful modeling career and while raising three boys (ages 2, 3 and 14) Sarah decided to open the first Koi Poke, a concept which was inspired by her husband. Very quickly, the Koi Poke concept, featuring flown in fresh daily, sushi quality seafood, delicious organic toppings and chef-prepared, gluten-free sauces, took off.

"Of course we hoped our concept would be well received, but I have to say, we were thrilled at how well things went right from the start", said Sarah. "Despite it being the beginning of the summer, we were successful from day one and our business just continues to grow. Our guests tell us constantly how much they love our food and service and it's really gratifying. "



Koi Poke's current and future locations include:

1. Koi Poke DC Ranch Crossing – Pima/Princess & 101 - North Scottsdale

2. Koi Poke Arcadia – 44th St. & Indian School Rd. – Phoenix
3. Koi Poke Gainey Village – Scottsdale Rd. & Doubletree Rd - Scottsdale
4. Koi Poke at The Plant – Gilbert Rd. & Ocotillo Rd. - Chandler
5. Koi Poke Park West – Northern & 101 – Peoria
6. Koi Poke Waterfront – Camelback Rd. & Marshal Way – Scottsdale
7. Koi Poke at The Shops at Norterra –Happy Valley Rd. & Norterra Pkwy. - Phoenix
8. Koi Poke San Tan Valley– Gilbert
9. Koi Poke Arrowhead - Glendale
10. Koi Poke Downtown - Phoenix
11. Koi Poke Northwest Valley - Peoria
12. Koi Poke ASU - Tempe



“I just can’t say enough about the whole team that helped make Koi Poke the success that it is”, said Sarah. “We’re all really looking forward to bringing the Koi Poke, five-star experience to all the new locations throughout the Valley and beyond.”

#### ABOUT KOI POKE, LLC

Koi Poke features the highest quality and freshest "boat to bowl" fish available, only the best quality toppings and 8 amazing chef prepared sauces.

Koi Poke was founded by a diverse group of highly successful entrepreneurs with decades of Image & Brand Building, Marketing & Advertising, Technology, Finance and Business Operations experience. Koi Poke’s Senior Management Team includes:

**Stephen Dean – Principal, Operations Advisor**

Stephen Dean has spent the last 23 years in restaurant and hospitality management. Stephen began his career with T.G.I. Fridays and after eight years, joined Jason’s Deli where he managed their Arizona locations for seven years. Dean then joined the LA based, Innovative Dining Group and over the past seven years, has held senior operations and management positions with Sushi Roku in Scottsdale, AZ (at the W Hotel), ROKU in Santa Monica, CA and Katana in Los Angeles, CA. Stephen played a critical role in the development of Koi Poke, particularly the menu and continues to contribute to our ongoing success.

**Anthony McMahon – Principal, Operations Advisor**

Tony has nearly 40 years of experience in fine dining. Early in his career, he held senior operations and management positions at the Registry Resort in Scottsdale, The Pointe at Tapitio Cliffs and the Phoenician Resort’s fine dining establishments. Over the past 20 years, McMahon has been the General Manager of Mastro’s Ocean Club and the General Manager and Operating Partner of the Cameron Mitchell Restaurant Group’s Ocean Prime concept in Ohio and Arizona. Tony has been instrumental in the development of Koi Poke’s operations and continues to contribute to our ongoing success.

Jeffrey Berkowitz - Director of Operations

Jeff has spent the last 20 of his 30+ years in the restaurant industry as a General Manager of some of the finest dining establishments in the United States. Before joining the Koi Poke team in 2017, Berkowitz was the General Manager of Dominick's Steakhouse in Scottsdale, AZ for two years. Prior to his tenure at Dominick's, he spent nine years as the General Manager of Capital Grille and three years as the General Manager of Morton's Steakhouse. Jeff shares Koi Poke's vision and obsession with perfection. His vast and diverse experience with such top-tier establishments, as well as his prior experience with Steak & Ale Corporation and the roll out of Boston Market nationally, made him the obvious choice to direct the operations of Koi Poke's current and future locations.

Oscar Jimenez – Executive Chef

Oscar has over 30 years of experience in fine dining and prior to joining the Koi Poke team, was employed for over 17 years at Tarbell's in Phoenix. Oscar is personally responsible for the day to day operations of Koi Poke's kitchens and maintaining the freshness, consistency and quality control that has made Koi Poke the success that it is.

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