



New in Gateway Quarter

Posted by [Polly Campbell](#) • August 26th, 2009, 12:08 pm • [Read Comments\(10\)](#) • [Recommend\(7\)](#)

A new restaurant will join the small, growing collection of businesses on Vine Street in the Gateway Quarter. Senate will open at 1212 Vine across the street from Lavomatic in mid October. Daniel and Lana Wright are the owners; Daniel the chef and Lana in charge of the front of the house. Wright is a Johnson and Wales-trained chef who has worked in Chicago and Los Angeles. He was executive chef at Souk in Chicago, where Lana was dining room manager, before coming here. One of Senate's motto is "Eat. Drink. Discuss." "I liked the idea of being a forum for families eating, discussing their day. I also loved the idea of the back rooms where politics and business used to get done," said Wright. He describes the food as "modern street food," including gourmet hot dogs. They'll have unique renditions of the classic, including a Cincinnati, a Chicago, a Trailer Park, and a Korean. The hot dogs, as well as all the pickles, relishes and kim chee will be made in-house. Also on the menu: bacon-wrapped oysters, lobster BLT sliders, falafel sandwiches. They'll have craft beers, some to be found nowhere else in the city, and craft cocktail. The look will be minimal and modern, but with references to old-school Cincinnati. The oak floor is being made into walls, while the floor gets old-style hexagonal tiles; the sign will be old-fashioned neon. Senate will feature an open kitchen, a sidewalk patio, a communal table. The dining room will hold 50 seats, the patio another 15-20. They'll serve lunch, be open through the afternoon, and then open with food until 1 a.m on the weekends.

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DarwinLives wrote:

This guy is Awesome! I had a chance to eat at his place in Chicago and it was unbelievable. I can't wait till this place opens. Exactly what Cincinnati needs - A "Windy City" attitude in our charming city.

8/26/2009 6:11:10 PM

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Brad_Thomas wrote:

Replying to -marc:

Places like this are why Downtown will also kick Mason and West Chester butt. Unique and edgy. Try finding that at your west chester max and erma's.

Cincinnati needs both a strong City and strong suburbs. Some people want to live in the City and others in Mason, but unless the region offers attractive living in both we will miss out on people coming into and staying in the region.

8/26/2009 5:29:46 PM

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jimmyjohn3696 wrote:

What a good story! This is a major step towards breaking down the negative stigma about Cincinnati. Believe it or not Over The Rhine and the riots are two very big factors in the national perception of Cincinnati, OH. Let's change that perception. What better neighborhood to do it? There is a high risk here but it seems like the reward is immeasurable for this city if more people jump on board!

8/26/2009 5:19:33 PM

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chrisb79 wrote: