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### **VANILLE PATISSERIE ACQUIRED BY INVESTOR GROUP**

Chicago French Gourmet Pastry Wholesaler and Retailer Moves Forward Under New Ownership

**Chicago, IL – December 9, 2011** - An investor group headed by Sophie Evanoff has acquired Vanille Patisserie, one of Chicagoland's finest French gourmet pastry wholesalers and retailers.

Evanoff, a graduate of Chicago's internationally-renowned French Pastry School, and the University of Michigan, has worked in operations, production and marketing managerial capacities with several area gourmet confection and pastry companies.

"The specialized gourmet pastry market has remained strong and viable despite the economic downturn in the Chicagoland area," Evanoff said. "Consumers have always enjoyed the experience of a gourmet treat, whether at their favorite restaurant, from a specialized shop or at home."

Vanille Patisserie provides luxury desserts to a number of Chicago's finer restaurants and hotels. In addition, it has retail outlets in Lincoln Park and in the West Loop French Market. Vanille also serves an extensive client base via its Internet operation [www.vanillepatisserie.com](http://www.vanillepatisserie.com).

"The acquisition of Vanille Patisserie by Evanoff, a former student, will enable the existing team to continue in the tradition of the world's finest French pastry chefs who exemplify quality, creativity and exquisite taste," said World Champion Pastry Chef Dimitri Fayard, Vanille Patisserie's co-founder who will continue with the company in an advisory capacity. "I am thrilled that, as part of our acquisition, both Dimitri and Keli Fayard will be staying on to provide guidance and advice with our new creations for both wholesale and retail clients," Evanoff said. "Their experience, knowledge and excellence will be invaluable to the expansion we both have envisioned."

### **About Vanille Patisserie**

A gourmet French pastry shop in the heart of Chicago, Vanille Patisserie creates artful pastries that combine classic European traditions with modern flavors for the contemporary palette. French for vanilla, Vanille (vah-NEE) provides a variety of carefully crafted creations, personalized wedding and special occasion cake consultation, handmade chocolates and candies, delicious entremets (mousse cakes) and luscious tarts.

The company operates through Internet orders via:

<http://www.vanillepatisserie.com/>

As well as out of two Chicago-based retail locations:

2229 N. Clybourn Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60614  
Tel: 773.868.4574

Chicago French Market  
Located Inside The Ogilvie Metro Station  
131 North Clinton  
Chicago, IL 60661  
Tel: 312.575.9963

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If you'd like more information about Vanille Patisserie, please call Sophie Evanoff at 773.868.4574 or e-mail at [sophie@vanillepatisserie.com](mailto:sophie@vanillepatisserie.com).