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## <u>PIGGY-BACKING ONTO THE NATIONAL BACON SHORTAGE</u>, DESTINATION AMERICA GREENLIGHTS NEW SERIES "UNITED STATES OF BACON"

(Silver Spring, MD) — Have no fear, bacon is here! In the midst of a great bacon shortage – dubbed the "aporkalypse" by some – Destination America grants a full-series order to **UNITED STATES OF BACON**. Based on an episode from summer 2012's three-part series UNITED STATES OF FOOD, the breakout bacon special earned phenomenal ratings for the network. Now, the special-turned-12-episode-series continues across the country as its host, Chef Todd Fisher, searches for the most mouth-watering bacon creations that American kitchens have to offer. Currently in production for a December 2012 premiere, **UNITED STATES OF BACON** promises to serve viewers the sizzling strips they crave despite an unavoidable "world shortage of pork and bacon next year" (source).

"Bacon is undeniably, irrefutably one of the most popular foods in America. What was once a measly breakfast side dish is now the garnish du jour, as the artistic centerpiece of traditional recipes and in avant-garde pairings with ice cream, jam, and cocktails," said Marc Etkind, SVP of Content Strategy for Destination America. "It's no wonder bacon is in high demand, but it certainly won't be in short supply on **UNITED STATES OF BACON**. If only television screens were scratch and sniff!"

"As a chef, bacon is among the foods closest to my heart. But with a bacon shortage looming, my quest to taste the best dishes in America takes on national importance," said host Todd Fisher. "UNITED STATES OF BACON is the only show on television dedicated to bacon and all of its inspired recipes, and we're happy to be documenting them for posterity."

In the previous special, "United States of Bacon" visited venues with the most popular and innovative bacon dishes in the nation. Making Chef Todd's "bacon bucket list" were trail-blazing small businesses like the Bacon Bacon Truck in San Francisco and their traffic-stopping grilled cheese, which oozes bacon jam in addition to containing a few strips of the real stuff. Chef Todd also got a taste of bacon-wrapped hot dogs at NYC's Crif Dogs, nibbled a bacon and chocolate ice cream sandwich at Big Gay Ice Cream, and bit into a burger at LA's Slaters 50/50, where every patty has an even ratio of beef to bacon. UNITED STATES OF FOOD comprised of two other specials, "United States of Burgers" and "United States of Steaks."

**UNITED STATES OF BACON** is produced for Destination America by Sharp Entertainment. For Sharp, Matt Sharp is executive producer. For Destination America, Fay Yu and Ron Simon are executive producers, Sara Kozak is SVP of production, Marc Etkind is SVP of content strategy, and Henry Schleiff is president and general manager.

## **ABOUT CHEF TODD FISHER**

With more than 20 years' experience as a chef, restaurateur, and food columnist, UNITED STATES OF FOOD host Chef Todd Fisher is notorious for big flavors, exciting experiences, and dynamic entertainment. A fifth-generation Californian, Chef Todd began his craft at age 15 with a job at a local Chinese restaurant. Finding his talent quickly, he sought positions in a wide variety of kitchens to learn as much as he could about different cuisines and their associated technique. Chef Todd has worked for and owned some of central California's best restaurants. When not teaching cooking classes or catering intimate parties at his very own food education and entertainment venue, The Kitchen, Chef Todd can be found dazzling the crowd at prestigious food and wine festivals or doting on his wife and five children.

## ABOUT DESTINATION AMERICA

Destination America is the first network to celebrate the people, places, and stories of the United States. The inclusive network targeting Adults 25-54 is available in 59.5 million homes, emblazoning television screens with the grit and tenacity, honesty and work ethic, humor and adventurousness that characterize our nation. Destination America features travel, food, adventure, home, and natural history, with original series covering such diverse subjects as American food favorites, mysteries like Jesse James' lost fortune and Area 51, American heroes and innovators, as well as iconic landmarks and wonders like Yellowstone National Park and the Everglades. Destination America is part of Discovery Communications (Nasdaq: DISCA, DISCB, DISCK), the world's #1 nonfiction media company reaching more than 1.5 billion cumulative subscribers in 200 countries and territories.

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