We’ve Been Nominated!
...and here’s why:

Nomination #1: Best Venue for Locally Sourced Catering
Local sourcing is part of the way we do business at the University of Maryland. Our menus include produce from our own Terp Farm; a joint venture of the Department of Dining Services and the College of Agriculture. Terp Farm is an organic farm and also a teaching lab where students get hands-on experience not otherwise available on our campus. Lettuce mixes, fresh heirloom tomatoes, root vegetables, herbs, gourds and beans come from Terp Farm for use in catered offerings, the Green Tidings food truck (serving sustainable, chef-driven menus), and dining hall special events. Raised beds in front of the Adele H. Stamp Student Union provide herbs that Good Tidings Catering chefs add to gourmet creations served to campus officials and visiting dignitaries. Certified campus chefs take pride in caring for these plantings and, while they’re gardening, they talk with passing students about different uses for garden-fresh herbs. Maryland Good Tidings Catering and Goodies2Go deliveries work with the Facilities Department to provide waste-free events as often as possible. “Waste-free” during the current public health crisis often means that all single use items are compostable and are sorted into special receptacles for transport to a composting site. During normal times, it means that the event is served on china with metal utensils and cloth tablecloths. Procurement processes favor sustainable ingredients for cooking: vegetables served at events, in cafes and even in dining halls are purchased fresh then roasted, steamed, sautéed or simmered then are seasoned and served. Several events each year celebrate Maryland’s agricultural history, featuring blue crabs from the Chesapeake Bay and UMD raised beef, lamb and pork. In 2014, UMD committed to sustainability, pledging to source 20 percent of food from sustainable sources by 2020 – in fact, we reached this goal in 2016 and continue to seek new ways to raise the bar and signing on as to the Cool Food Pledge, working with institutions around the world to lower the carbon footprint of the food we serve to our guests.

Nomination #2: Best Venue for Weddings
Gorgeous in all seasons, the Adele H. Stamp Student Union, Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center, and Memorial Chapel at the University of Maryland, College Park provide a setting for more than 8,200 special events each year. With two ballrooms, a 500 seat theater, and 17 meeting rooms, the Adele H. Stamp Student Union is the center for campus life at the University of Maryland-College Park. The Stamp serves the needs of campus and off-campus communities including but not limited to students, staff, visitors, community members, and local businesses and establishments. The Stamp hosts 6,000 events annually including academic and professional conferences, receptions, birthday and anniversary parties, meetings, and weddings. All event reservations include personalized event coordination, specialized equipment and audio-visual set-up, in-house retail food options or full-service catering. The Stamp also features an array of entertainment which includes an art gallery, 8 bowling lanes, 10 billiard tables, a Lounge area with multiple TVs and video consoles compatible with the latest gaming technologies. Its central location makes it accessible to the University of Maryland Memorial Chapel. The Memorial Chapel is a multi-faith non-denominational venue with four unique spaces ideal for weddings, graduations, religious services, bereavement ceremonies, and secular concerts and performances. The interior features an abundance of natural light, gorgeous pillars, and perfect acoustics suitable for celebrations of all sizes. The architecturally stunning Main Chapel boasts a vaulted ceiling, a majestic pipe organ and two-level seating for up to 1000, while the cozy and warm Garden Chapel is adorned with wooden pews, a vibrant Tree of Life art installation, and seating for up to 100. Professional meetings, small group facilitations, and private luncheons may be held in the Lounge or Conference Room. Overlooking the Chapel is the Labyrinth and Garden of Reflection and Remembrance, a scenic space optimal for outdoor parties, intimate gatherings, wellness retreats, and rustic weddings. Forever a historical icon, Memorial Chapel is a premier event venue for visitors, patrons, and alumni of all faiths, cultures and walks of life. The Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center is a story that continues to be written in the lives of those who find it perfect for their special event. Accessible via campus shuttles, private transportation services, and a nearby transit system, Riggs Alumni Center is a convenient location for your ideal event with 10 unique meeting spaces. In addition to providing flexible food and beverage options which include an assortment of 14 local caterers, it is the picture-perfect venue for all occasions whether you’re an alumnus, student, or friend. May it be an intimate wedding rehearsal in the Robert J. and Mary Charlotte Chaney Library or a conference for 500 in the Dorothy D. and Nicholas Orem Ballroom, Riggs Alumni Center features a rich interior with a grand marble foyer, fireplace, and a custom stained-glass ocular. The Howard G. Crist Jr. and Gertrude H. Crist Executive Board Room is ideal for meetings up to 50 or a lavish banquet for 80. Surrounded by natural lighting, the Phillip R. Rever Alumni Hall of Fame accommodates tea parties, art exhibits, cocktail hours, and trade expositions. With the beautiful Pedro E. and Ann G. Wasmier Rotunda and the Eleanor F. and Charles Young Jr. Garden Terrace, Riggs Alumni Center is the quintessential site for reunions, galas, proms, quinceaneras, wedding ceremonies, receptions, conferences, and birthday and anniversary parties. The Dessie M. Moxley Gardens features a crystalline fountain ideal for a picturesque garden wedding, an engagement photoshoot, or a celebratory party of your choosing. The Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center is more than a building—it is a place to meet, entertain, and celebrate. The University of Maryland, College Park is the one-stop shop for weddings, events and conferences.

Now, We Need Your Vote! ...and here’s how: https://go.umd.edu/Vote2021

Voting Ends August 14th! Thank You for Your Anticipated Support!