HIGHLY POPULAR NORWICH BUSINESS OWNER REACHES SHORTLIST FOR VISITENGLAND’S TOURISM SUPERSTAR 2017.

Duane Dibartolomeo - one half of the hugely successful Grosvenor Fish Bar team in Norwich - has reached finalist status in the 2017 VisitEngland Awards for Excellence in the Tourism Superstar category. Nominated by VisitNorwich, the Tourism Superstar annual award run by VisitEngland and supported by The Daily Mirror celebrates people who go above and beyond in a tourism role.

Those who are regulars at the Grosvenor will know how Duane delights customers with his ‘unofficial’ on-the-go advice about where to visit and shop in Norwich, events and how to make the best of time spent in the city. Both locals and visitors appreciate his friendly advice, his local knowledge and his good sense of humour.

Duane and Christian (Motta) bought the Grosvenor Fish Bar in 2012 when they moved from New York (Duane is originally from Miami). The business was formally owned by Christian’s father, who over 35 years built up a strong clientele and thriving business. The Grosvenor has been a chippy for over 80 years in total.

Duane said: “Those of you who know me, know I like to talk, and I have a captive audience – the queue. In theory I am supposed to get orders to make sure they are ready by the time customers get to the till, that sometimes happens! But most times we get caught up in a conversation about what’s new, what is going on in Norwich - we have a collection of flyers for local events - it helps guide visitors to the varied events available here in Norwich.”
Melanie Cook, PR manager, VisitNorwich said: “VisitNorwich is absolutely thrilled Duane has reached finalist status in this popular award and we trust that the people of Norwich will votes in their thousands for Duane to be crowned Tourism Superstar 2017 when the public votes opens on the Daily Mirror website on 7th February.

VisitNorwich has had one of its member businesses shortlisted 4 out of 5 years in this category with ultimate success in 2014 when Busby Allen from Potters Resort won the competition to become Tourism Superstar 2014. We have everything crossed Duane can do it for The Norwich Lanes and Norwich this year.”

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Notes to Editors

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• The voting will open on Tuesday 7th February at 8am and the winning Tourism Superstar will be announced during English Tourism Week 2017 (25 March – 2 April) - www.mirror.co.uk/tourismsuperstar.

• Visit www.mirror.co.uk/tourismsuperstar to watch a short film featuring the Superstar finalists and have your say on who takes the title by casting an online vote.

• Social media; #TourismSuperstar @VisitEngland @VisitEnglandBiz @VisitNorwich #cityofstories @NorwichChippy @MirrorTravelEd @MirrorTravel

• VisitNorwich is the destination management organisation for the Norwich area. It is a private/public sector partnership and a not for profit organisation whose sole focus is to promote and develop the destination and support its members through collaborative marketing, research, information and business advice.

• VisitNorwich Ltd is a company limited by guarantee, a private/public sector partnership and a membership organisation representing the interests of a broad range of businesses across the visitor economy. Its principal public sector stakeholders are Norwich City Council and South Norfolk Council.