



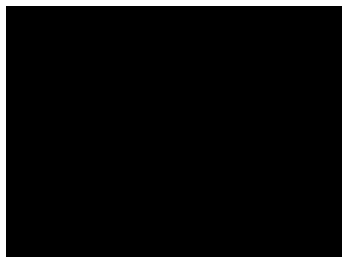
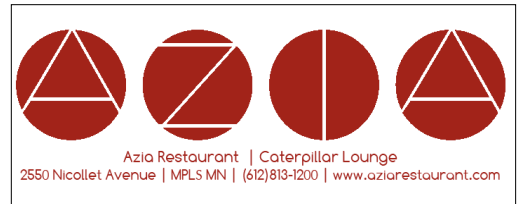
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## Two Twin Cities Restaurant Staples – Azia Restaurant and Town Talk Diner – are Newest Members of Twin Cities Originals

MINNEAPOLIS (Feb. 25, 2010) – For years, [Azia Restaurant](#) and [Town Talk Diner](#), both located in Minneapolis, have been making local food critics and diners swoon. Both interested in preserving the independent dining spirit in the Twin Cities, Azia Restaurant and Town Talk Diner have joined more than 20 local independent restaurants as the newest members of [Twin Cities Originals](#) (TCO).

“While their food and atmosphere are completely different, Azia Restaurant and Town Talk Diner are similar in that they are both incredibly well-known and loved restaurants in the Twin Cities,” said Charlie Theros, president of TCO. “They are joining a group of experienced restaurateurs and managers that are genuinely concerned about preserving the unique dining establishments in the Twin Cities and metro area.”

Azia Restaurant is a dream realized by Chef and Owner, Thom Pham. Born in Vietnam during the height of the American War, Pham learned the art of traditional Asian cuisine from his elders. After coming to Minnesota at the age of 17, he was thrilled by this new palette of flavors and textures and excitedly began experimenting, merging the two cuisines, until he'd found the perfect marriage of flavors and styles that has become Azia Restaurant's badge.



Located off of the hustle and bustle of Lake Street, Town Talk Diner is a chef-driven, clever, creative, modern take on the classic American diner. The menu features new spins on classic dishes like macaroni and cheese, meatloaf and fried chicken and all from local farmers for the ultimate in freshness, flavor and taste.

Patrons of Azia Restaurant and Town Talk Diner can now take advantage of TCO's member [rewards program](#). For more information about TCO and participating restaurants, please visit [www.tcoriginals.com](http://www.tcoriginals.com)

### About Twin Cities Originals

Twin Cities Originals (TCO) was formed in 2002 by a group of local, independently owned restaurants in response to the growing number of chain restaurants. The organization fosters an

environment in which independent Twin Cities' dining establishments can grow and flourish. In 2001, the number of chain restaurants grew to outnumber independently owned restaurants and continues to threaten the local dining environment. Though all members of TCO are competitors, more than 20 restaurants have come together to preserve the true spirit of original Twin Cities dining. For more information, please visit [www.tcoriginals.com](http://www.tcoriginals.com)

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