

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 6th, 2023 CONTACT: ProtegoFoundation@gmail.com

FULLY VEGAN BUTTERBEER NOW AVAILABLE AT UNIVERSAL PARKS AND RESORTS

ORLANDO, Florida, and LOS ANGELES, California— Vegans everywhere have something to cheer for. Thanks to The Protego Foundation's tireless campaigning, Universal Parks and Resorts now offers a fully vegan butterbeer topping for both the cold and frozen versions of the drink at Universal Orlando Resort and Universal Studios Hollywood.

Since launching the "Accio Vegan Butterbeer" campaign petition in 2018, The Protego Foundation has fought for a dairy-free option for the iconic drink at the Wizarding World. Now, as of March 2nd 2023, butterbeer is available as a fully vegan drink—foam and all! The certified vegan version of the creamy, frothy topping is crafted from plant-based ingredients, making the beloved beverage now accessible for those who choose to avoid animal-based ingredients like cow's milk.

Of the victory, Kathryn Henzler, Executive Director of The Protego Foundation, said, "It's surreal yet gratifying to know that our hard work campaigning for fully vegan butterbeer for five years has finally made our dream a reality."

Vegan butterbeer topping dispensers have been installed at select locations within Florida's Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure, and California's Universal Studios Hollywood. The vegan topping for Butterbeer is only available within the restaurants inside of Hogsmeade and Diagon Alley at The Wizarding World of Harry Potter. It is not currently available at the additional Butterbeer carts and other serving locations.

"Whether you are vegan for the environment, vegan for the animals, vegan for health, or have a dairy allergy, we can now all indulge in the most iconic Wizarding World treat without contributing to the cruelty that mother cows and their calves face in the dairy industry," says Henzler, "Thank you, Universal, for this compassionate decision!"

For more information about The Protego Foundation and to support their work to help magical (and non-magical) creatures, visit <u>protegofoundation.org</u>.