

For Immediate Release

Top Chefs Chosen to Compete in Culinary Competition

The Mason Dixon Master Chef Tournament Announces Top 16 Competitors

Baltimore, MD, May 8, 2015 – The Mason Dixon Master Chef, LLC has announced the 2015 field of 16 chef teams who will compete this summer in the fifth running of The Mason Dixon Master Chef Tournament.

The Mason Dixon Master Chef Tournament, which pits 16 top chef teams one-on-one in a single-elimination culinary competition begins June 15th. All competitions will be held at the Inn at the Colonnade Baltimore, a Doubletree by Hilton Hotel (www.colonnadebaltimore.com/). A full schedule as well as chef bios are available at <http://www.masondixonmasterchef.com/schedule-results/bracket.php>.

2015 Mason Dixon Chef Competitors

Kiet Philavanh, ***Basta Pasta***
Jonathan Hicks, ***Birroteca***
Wilbur Cox, Jr., ***Bistro Rx***
Cole Whaley, ***Café Rue***
Alfio Celia, ***Carluccio's***
Andrew Maggitti, ***Chartwell Country Club***
Lanydrek Christ Pandzou, ***Colony South Hotel***
Dana Herbert, ***Desserts by Dana***
Rick Koplau, ***Duke's Grocery***
Jirat Suphrom-In, ***My Thai***
Melissa Fordham, ***Personal Chef Services***
Jeff Keeney, ***The Point in Fells***
Sean Praglowski, ***Power Plant Live!***
Bill Kelley, ***Renditions Golf***
Niko Negas, ***Roasthouse Pub***
Greg Mason, ***The White Oak Tavern***

Tournament Details

Tickets for all 15 dates of this summer-long single-elimination chef competition are available for purchase at: <http://www.masondixonmasterchef.com>. Tickets for most matches are \$25 for general admission and \$45 for judging experience (including all taxes). In addition, the Mason Dixon Master Chef Tournament donates 10% of the net proceeds of each ticket sold directly to their charity partner Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland (<http://www.mealsonwheelsmd.org>).

Competition Dates (5:30pm – 9:00pm):

June 15, 16, 22, 23, 29, 30
July 13, 14, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28
August 10, 11, 16

Event Timeline:

5:30 p.m. – Happy Hour with Complementary Hors d'oeuvres and Wine Tasting by Boordy Vineyards, plus Drink Specials
6:30 p.m. – Cold Prep Begins for the Competition
7:00 p.m. – Chef Competition
8:00 p.m. – Judging Begins, Complementary Dessert and Coffee Served

Partners and Sponsors:

Partners: Boordy Vineyards, Restaurant Association of Maryland, Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington
Platinum Sponsor: Inn at the Colonnade Baltimore, Emmi Roth Kase USA, The Umbrella Syndicate
Gold Sponsor: American Metal Craft, BlueRock Productions, Maple Leaf Farms, Phillips Food, Steelite International, Sysco Food Service/AM Briggs, Vulcan
Silver Sponsors: Aqua Panna/S. Pellegrino (Nestle Waters), Atalanta, Bigelow Tea, Chef a la mode, ECOLAB, Hatfield, Logan Sausage, Marcho Farms, National Pasteurized Eggs, Pastry Star
Bronze Sponsors: BelGioioso, Coleman/Heartland, Natalie's Orchard Island Juice Company, RoboCoupe, Ventura Foods, Heinz, Waring Commercial

Media Partners:

Baltimore Restaurant Examiner, CityPeek, Dining Dish, Downtown Diane, JL Waldera, Minx Eats, Savory Experiments, The Umbrella Syndicate

Interviews: Chefs are available for in-studio demos and phone interviews as well as on-site interviews pre or post competition. To set up an interview or receive a press pass to a specific event, please contact Karen Folkart, Karen@masondixonmasterchef.com.

About The Mason Dixon Master Chef Tournament

This multi-week event is a single-elimination tournament designed to showcase some of the area's finest executive chefs and restaurants. Guests attending this exciting event will be more than just spectators, as they enjoy the unique experience of witnessing two spectacular area chefs battle it out in the prep kitchen right on the main floor. Each evening two chef teams go head-to-head to prepare an appetizer, entrée and dessert for each of three expert judges, as well as amuse bouche portions of their entrees for up to 30 audience member judges. Their creations are scored on creativity, presentation and taste, and only one chef advances to the next round. At the end of this tournament only one of the 16 competing chefs will emerge as THE Mason Dixon Master Chef! 10% of the net proceeds of each ticket sold directly to Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland. More information available at www.MasonDixonMasterChef.com, on Twitter @MDMasterChef, and Facebook at Mason Dixon Master Chef.

About Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland

Meals on Wheels' mission is to enhance quality of life through the provision of nutritious meals, personal contact and related services to homebound individuals. Last year, over 740,000 home-delivered meals were prepared and delivered to more than 2,900 homebound clients through the coordinated efforts of Meals on Wheels staff and some 2,000 volunteers. Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland currently serves the following areas: Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, Howard, Montgomery and Prince George's counties.