

Mason Dixon Master Chef Tournament Returns to Baltimore City

May 6, 2013 - Baltimore, MD - The Mason Dixon Master Chef Tournament is thrilled to be returning to Baltimore city this June for the third running of its summer-long culinary competition.

This year's charity partner will once again be Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland (www.mealsonwheelsmd.org), who receive 10% of the net proceeds of each ticket sold. Mason Dixon is also partnering with Mari Luna (www.mariluna.com), a family owned and operated restaurant group, who will be hosting all of this year's events at their convenient Baltimore location in the heart of the city's cultural district.

This unique multi-week event is a single-elimination culinary tournament designed to showcase some of the Baltimore-Washington Metropolitan and surrounding area's finest executive chefs and restaurants, while providing the audience a unique evening of entertainment. At the end of this tournament only one of the 16 competing chefs will emerge as The 2013 Mason Dixon Master Chef!

Guests attending this interactive live competition will be more than just spectators, as they watch these top chefs prepare original appetizer, entrée, and dessert creations in an hour for three expert judges and up to 30 'Guest Judges'. Guests are invited to stand right across from chefs to witness the skills and techniques up close and interact with the chefs as they compete. In addition, guests arriving in time for Happy Hour (5:30-6:30pm) will enjoy complementary appetizers and wine tasting, as well as drink specials. Guests may also purchase authentic Mexican cuisine throughout the evening from host Mari Luna Bistro's specially prepared menu, and all guests will end their evening by enjoying a complementary dessert bar and coffee (coffee provided by J.R. Smuckers, a single-source organic coffee producer).

Tickets*: \$25 for general admission (includes tax)

\$45 for judging experience (includes tax)

Available for purchase at: www.masondixonmasterchef.com

**** Tickets must be purchased in advance for the above pricing. \$30/ \$50 at the door.***

Event Details

The 8-week event kicks-off June 17th and continues through the summer, with two competitions most weeks, until August 27th. All events are held at the Mari Luna Bistro, 1225 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, MD 21201.

Competition Dates (6:00pm – 9:00pm, doors open at 5:30 for Happy Hour):

June 17, 18, 24, 25

July 15, 16, 22, 23, 29, 30

August 5, 6, 19, 20, 27

Event Timeline:

5:30 p.m. – Happy Hour with Complementary Appetizers and Wine Tasting, plus Drink Specials

6:30 p.m. – Cold Prep Begins for the Competition

7:00 p.m. – Chef Competition

8:00pm – Judging Begins

Corporate Sponsors:

Platinum Sponsor: Mari Luna Bistro

Gold Sponsor: Atalanta / DeMedici, AM Briggs, Chef a la mode, Maple Leaf Farms, Roland Food, Steelite International, Sysco Food Service

Silver Sponsors: All Around Reps, Azar Nuts, Emmi Roth USA, Hatfield, Heinz, Koch Chicken, Logan Sausage, Marcho Farms

Bronze Sponsors: Acqua Panna / S. Pellegrino, BelGioioso, E. Goodwin Seafood, ECOLAB, Manzo Foods, Mercer Tools, Paderno, Phillips Foods, Provimi Foods, Waring
Other Sponsors include: American Metalcraft, CookTek, J.R. Smuckers, Libbey Glass, Schmid Wilson

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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.

About Mari Luna and the Mari Luna Bistro

The Mari Luna Restaurant Group consists of three restaurants, the Mari Luna Bistro in Baltimore, and the Mari Luna Latin Grille and Mari Luna Mexican Grill both in Pikesville, Maryland. Owned and operated by the Jaime Luna, his wife Alba, and his family, the Mari Luna properties offer authentic Mexican and Latin cuisine that combines the warmth of the Luna family with sophisticated and delicious food preparation for a unique dining experience. The Mason Dixon Master Chef events will all be held at the Mari Luna Bistro, located in the heart of Baltimore's cultural district, just steps away from the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's Joseph Meyerhoff Hall, and the Cultural Center stop of the light rail.

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