



Tenth Anniversary Events DC Embassy Chef Challenge Presented by TCMA Returns May 17

Tickets for this one-of-a-kind food and drink celebration on sale now

Washington, DC (May 1, 2018)—The **2018 Events DC Embassy Chef Challenge** presented by TCMA will showcase flavors and culture from around the world. Embassy chefs will gather on **Thursday, May 17** in the Atrium of the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center. They will showcase their culinary prowess and compete for the coveted Golden Pineapple trophy awarded to the winners of the **People’s Choice Prize presented by Events DC** (attendees vote for their favorite) and the **Judges’ Choice Prize presented by TCMA** (voted on by a distinguished panel). In celebration of the 10th anniversary of the challenge, new awards will be presented including one for best cultural presentation by an embassy and the **Best Beverage Award presented by PepsiCo**.

The Embassy of Bangladesh is participating in the Chef Challenge this year. Our chefs Md. Abul Hossain and Alamgir Hossain are going to enthrall all with their delicious aromatic Mutton Biryani and ‘Borhani’- the traditional spicy yogurt drink. To round up the spicy flavors they will also serve sweet, scrumptious ‘Rosogolla’. Wishing all the participating chefs good luck, Ambassador Mohammad Ziauddin said, “On 17th we will be tasting and sampling different cuisines. As we move from table to table, we will be crossing ‘cultural’ realms. This is a unique occasion to build bridges.”

The challenge encourages diplomacy through the celebration of food, drinks, dance, music, and fashion from around the globe. This 2,000+ person event highlights globally inspired, local talent with performances by mariachi band **Los Gallos Negros**, Ghanaian jazz guitarist **Dea Botri**, Brazilian dance group **Origem**, a live musical performance by **City of the Sun**, and more.

“For 10 years, the Events DC Embassy Chef Challenge presented by TCMA has served as a cultural mainstay in our city, bringing together residents, visitors and the Washington diplomatic community for an exceptional experience of authentic cuisine and culture from some of the world’s most-talented culinary and performing artists. To celebrate our 10th anniversary, and thank our longtime supporters, we’ve added more awards categories and an after party that gives attendees an exclusive opportunity to mingle with the embassy chefs,” said **Max Brown**, Chairman, Board of Directors at Events DC.

Cultural Tourism DC’s Executive Director, **Steve Shulman** is excited about what the tenth anniversary of the challenge will bring, saying, “Embassy Chef Challenge has a delicious legacy! Founded as a friendly competition among the chefs who serve their country, over the years, chefs and their ambassadors learned that *bon appetite* tastes good but bragging rights taste better.”

Event attendees will have the unique opportunity to sample flavors from multiple continents all in one-place—an experience that can only be created in Washington, D.C. Embassy chef creations will include an **herbed crepe pouch with sautéed heart of palm** and shrimp in peanut sauce as well as **chicken and pork adobo profiteroles** from **Chef Abigail Sincioco** from the Embassy of the Philippines.



Last year's People's Choice winner, **Chef Cynthia Verna** from the Embassy of Haiti, and the Judges' Choice winner, **Chef Moha Fedal** of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco, will return this year to cheer on the chefs from their respective nations. Both chefs will be available for comment on the legacy of the challenge.

Embassies will also be serving a diverse selection of native cocktails, beer, and wine as well as desserts throughout the evening. The Embassy of the Principality of Liechtenstein will be presenting its **Imperial Rickey 300**, a cocktail featuring Laird's Applejack, elderflower liqueur, lemon juice, and sparkling wine from the Court Vineyard of the Prince of Liechtenstein. The Embassy of Canada will be showcasing a variety of its country's best craft beers. The Embassy of the Slovak Republic will be pouring wines and vodka from their homeland. And Ecuador will showcase a variety of native chocolates.

This year the event will showcase the amazing talent of chefs from around the world, including:

| ASIA | AFRICA | EUROPE | THE AMERICAS |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Bangladesh | Cameroon | Belgium | Barbados |
| Iraq | Ethiopia | Georgia | Bolivia |
| Kyrgyz Republic | Ghana | Liechtenstein | Canada |
| Nepal | Kenya | Moldova | Chile |
| Philippines | Morocco | Slovakia | Colombia |
| Sri Lanka | Côte d'Ivoire | | Dominican Republic |
| | | | El Salvador |
| | | | Haiti |
| | | | Panama |
| | | | Peru |
| | | | Jamaica |

TICKETS: Purchase your tickets for this one-of-a-kind celebration of food, drink and culture. General admission tickets are \$90 and will include all the global sips and bites you can consumer, plus live entertainment throughout the evening. For \$175, VIP guests can enjoy a one-hour early entry to meet all the chefs, network with diplomatic community, and stay late with entry to the after party. After Party tickets featuring open bar and a DJ are also available for \$50. For ticket purchases and more information about the event, please visit www.eventsdcebassychefchallenge.com.

MEDIA CREDENTIALS: For media credentials, please apply online and Linda Roth Associates will in touch. Please note, credentials are for working members of the press, only.

SPONSORS: The Event DC Embassy Chef Challenge presented by TCMA is made possible with help from the following sponsors: Bundaberg, Cultural Tourism DC, RCN, Social Driver, Teahouse/Pureleaf and Voss.



ABOUT EVENTS DC

Events DC, the official convention and sports authority for the District of Columbia, delivers premier event services and flexible venues across the nation’s capital. Leveraging the power of a world-class destination and creating amazing attendee experiences, Events DC generates economic and community benefits through the attraction and promotion of business, athletic, entertainment and cultural activities. Events DC oversees the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, an anchor of the District’s hospitality and tourism economy that generates over \$400 million annually in total economic impact, and the historic Carnegie Library at Mt. Vernon Square. Events DC manages the Stadium-Armory campus, which includes Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium and surrounding Festival Grounds, the non-military functions of the DC Armory and Maloof Skate Park at RFK Stadium. Events DC also built and now serves as landlord for Nationals Park, the first LEED-certified major professional sports stadium in the United States. The most recent addition is Gateway DC, an innovative and versatile space featuring a covered and open-air pavilion in the center of a 1-acre park, conveniently located in the Congress Heights neighborhood of Washington, DC. For more information, please visit www.eventsdc.com and find us on social media – Facebook (Events DC), Twitter (@TheEventsDC and @TheEventsDC_SED for the Sports Entertainment and Special Events Division), and Instagram (@EventsDC).

ABOUT CULTURAL TOURISM DC (CTDC)

Cultural Tourism DC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that develops and delivers authentic, memorable experiences for people to enjoy and learn about Washington, DC, beyond its monuments. Residents and visitors in the District of Columbia can see its neighborhoods by walking along 17 [Neighborhood Heritage Trails](#) and participating in [WalkingTown DC](#), a 10-day festival of intriguing guided tours of DC sites; gain insight into our international diplomatic community via [Passport DC](#) and the [Around the World Embassy Tour](#); and engage in arts and culture during [PorchFest DC](#), a showcase for local performing artists in neighborhood settings. [Affiliate](#) member organizations provide authentic cultural experiences using the extraordinary talents of local and visiting artists from across the globe, many of whom are the guests of their embassies, another unique DC resource.

About TCMA (A Drew Company)

TCMA is the exclusive manager of Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center (RRB/ITC). TCMA’s team excels in delivering unparalleled service and expertise in Real-Estate Development, Leasing, Building Operations, Hospitality Services, and International Trade Promotion. For more information, please visit www.drewcompany.com.

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