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Sample Bites and Sips from Around the World at the Events DC Presents Embassy Chef Challenge

Embassy chefs gather to serve up signature dishes hoping to win the People's Choice and Judge's Choice Awards

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A sensational way to experience a country's culture is through its food. The 8th Annual Events DC presents Embassy Chef Challenge, a Cultural Tourism DC signature event, on Wednesday, May 25, at 6:30 pm at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center offers that chance on a grand scale.

"This event is a great opportunity for the embassy community to engage locals through the international language of delicious food," said Erik A. Moses, senior vice president and managing director of Events DC, Sports, Entertainment and Special Events. "Events DC is proud to partner with Cultural Tourism DC to bring this unique culinary competition to the District for the 8th consecutive year."

Guests can nibble their way through an abundant array of foods and drinks prepared by ~~171~~ 1719 global culinary representatives from South America, Asia, Africa, Europe plus a solid showing from the Caribbean nations. So, you can begin the evening quaffing British Virgin Islands' rum-infused "Painkiller" along with sips of Guatemalan Gazpacho del Enchilada as you stroll through and sample offerings as diverse as the Czech Republic's bacon wrapped duck pate, Uzbek plov and Ghanaian black-eyed pea and shrimp fritters. Wind up the night with an Arabic coffee from Qatar. All the while, you will be entertained by live music and dance from around the world.

"Through Passport DC, Cultural Tourism DC celebrates the diversity of the nations represented by their embassies in Washington, DC. There is no better way to celebrate than with fine food and beverage, some of which borders on the exotic," said Steven E. Shulman, executive director of Cultural Tourism DC.

A panel of local celebrity chefs, including Manny Rodriguez of Kapnos at Reagan National Airport, who was last year's Challenge champion, Ris Lacoste of Ris Restaurant, Cathal Armstrong of Restaurant Eve and renowned food writer and commentator Monica Bhide will award the Judge's Prize. Each attendee will have an opportunity to taste and cast their own vote to decide the People's Choice Award winner.

Tickets are \$65 at eventsdcembassychefchallenge.com

Sponsors of the 2016 Events DC presents Embassy Chef Challenge include RCN, Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, the British Virgin Islands Tourism Board and Dulles International Airport, the international gateway to the world.

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About Events DC

Events DC, the official convention and sports authority for the District of Columbia, deliver premier event services and flexible venues across the nation’s capital. By 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.

About Cultural Tourism DC

Cultural Tourism DC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to deliver memorable experiences and learning opportunities in the areas of heritage, international exchange, and the humanities. Working in partnership with local government, business, and tourism agencies, the organization envisions Washington, DC as a city rich with diverse culture and heritage that generates civic pride and economic prosperity in its neighborhoods.

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