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# ANAHEIM GARDENWALK TO HOST SECOND ANNUAL CHEF CHALLENGE COMPETITION

Popular 'Eatertainment' Venue Turns Local Culinary Arts Students Into Sous-Chefs For a Day, Invites the Public to Choose Winners By Taste Testing Signature Dishes Free of Charge

**ANAHEIM, Calif.** – September 12, 2018 – Anaheim GardenWalk, a unique "eatertainment" destination just steps from Southern California's Disneyland Resort and Anaheim Convention Center (<u>www.anaheimgardenwalk.com</u>), will soon host its second annual Chef Challenge cook-off to be held Sunday, October 14th, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. During the event, sponsored by *DiningOut Magazine*, top chefs from seven notable Orange County restaurants will prepare their signature dishes to compete for best-in-show honors. The public is invited to sample each restaurant's signature dish free of charge while supplies last, then vote to decide the winning dish.

The chefs will be assisted by local high school students carefully selected from culinary arts programs throughout Orange County. The winning restaurant's chef will take home a prestigious award as well as a set of professional-grade cutlery, and the student assisting that chef will take top honors among the county's culinary cohorts. Additionally, Anaheim GardenWalk will donate \$3,000 to benefit the <u>California</u> <u>Restaurant Association Foundation's</u> (CRAF) high school culinary arts program in Orange County. More than 1,600 Orange County students are currently enrolled in ProStart, a program that prepares young people for careers in culinary arts and hospitality management. CRAF offers equipment and enrichment services to ProStart students, including field trips, job-readiness training and classroom speakers.

"We are so excited to host the Chef Challenge event for the second year in a row," says Robin Weeks-Wynne, Senior Director, Marketing and Tourism, Anaheim GardenWalk. "This is a fun program that introduces the public to the best dishes Anaheim GardenWalk chefs have to offer while giving culinary arts students a chance to develop relationships with future employers and show some of the county's top chefs just what they can do in the kitchen."



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### **Restaurants and Signature Dishes**

Restaurants participating in the 2018 second-annual Chef Challenge event include:

1. House of Blues Restaurant & Bar

Signature dish: Voodoo Shrimp

# 2. Grasslands Meat Market BBQ & Churrasco

Signature dish: Picanha Churrasco and Greens (Olive and Garlic) with Oven-Roasted Potatoes

## 3. Fire + Ice Interactive Grill + Bar

Signature dish: Asian Salad with Chicken, Cabbage, Alfalfa Sprouts, Spinach, Bean Sprouts, Green Onion and Orange Ginger Sesame Dressing

## 4. California Pizza Kitchen

Signature dish: Chicken Milanese

## 5. Bubba Gump Shrimp Co.

Signature dish: Fire-Grilled Shrimp with Oven-Roasted Fingerling Potatoes, Heirloom Tomatoes, Sautéed Spinach and Lemon Cream Sauce

# 6. McCormick & Schmick's Grille

Signature dish: Seared Sea Scallop with Forbidden Rice, Burnt Orange Slaw and a Peruvian Pepper Beurre Blanc.

# 7. Roy's Restaurant

Signature dish: Yuzu Koshu Salmon Crunch Roll

# More Family-Friendly Fun at Anaheim GardenWalk

In addition to taste-testing signature dishes free of charge during the Chef Challenge event, starting at 2 p.m., Anaheim GardenWalk will host a number of other family-friendly activities from live music to face painting, balloon twisting, henna tattoos, and a photo booth.

The center will also hold its renowned "Art on the Walk" exhibit between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. on the same day. The exhibit showcases the work of talented artists throughout the center, and dozens of the exhibit's artists will be on hand to talk with guests while they enjoy the day's festivities.



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Chef Challenge food samples will be available to the first 600 registered attendees only on a first come, first served basis while supplies last. Attendees are asked to register to sample food at 2 p.m. at the registration table near the Concierge Kiosk in front of McCormick & Schmick's to receive their voting cards. All event-day activities take place between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. on October 14th and are free of charge and open to the public; the Chef Challenge event begins at 3 p.m.

#### About Anaheim GardenWalk

Anaheim GardenWalk is an "eatertainment" destination that blends dining, nightlife, family-friendly fun, outdoor art, and unique shops in a single amazing location. GardenWalk is home to a distinctive collection of popular restaurants, a vibrant nightlife with two rocking dance clubs, retail stores and the renowned live concert venue, House of Blues Anaheim, featuring musical artists new and old, and its famed Gospel brunch. Family-fun entertainment highlights include GO VR Gaming, Mission Escape Games, and Bowlmor Lanes. The 460,000-square-foot outdoor dining, entertainment and shopping destination is situated in the heart of the Anaheim Resort District, just steps from the Disneyland® Resort, Anaheim Convention Center, and a short drive from Angel Stadium and Honda Center. Anaheim GardenWalk provides a one-of-a-kind guest experience and a world-class gathering place for locals and visitors. To learn more, explore Anaheim GardenWalk's website at <u>www.anaheimgardenwalk.com</u> and follow the center on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.