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Music City Food + Wine Festival Announces Chef Showcase Schedule

*More than 40 of Nashville's Top Chefs to Cook at Sixth-Annual Festival,
September 14-16, 2018, in Downtown Nashville*

Nashville, TN (June 19, 2018) – *Music City Food + Wine Festival* is pleased to announce the **Chef Showcase** schedule, chef and restaurant line-up for Friday evening, September 14 and Saturday, September 15, 2018: <http://www.musiccityfoodandwinefestival.com>. Featuring more than 40 of the city's most beloved and acclaimed chefs, the Chef Showcase gives festival attendees the opportunity to sample signature dishes from their restaurants. The Chef Showcase is a hallmark of the Grand Taste Tents at **Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park** (600 James Robertson Pkwy).

Music City Food + Wine Festival is also in search of the ultimate food lovers to compete for a chance to become the **Best Fest Foodie**. Winners will receive either a pair of Friday Night or Saturday Tickets, a phone camera lens attachment and a professional photo shoot. Learn how to enter for a chance to win via: <https://www.musiccityfoodandwinefestival.com/win/best-fest-foodie/>

"Music City Food + Wine brings my two favorite things together: food + community," says **Aaron Clemins**, chef & partner of Kuchnia + Keller. "I can't think of anything better than getting to share food and fun with some of the best chefs in this city and the country! It's going to be a great weekend!"

Friday, September 14, 2018:

Chef Showcase will feature different chefs and restaurants each day. Join some of the industry's best chefs after work on Friday, September 14, from 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. for great food, drinks, cooking demos and more. Scheduled participants include: **Hrant Arakelian** (Lyra); **Kahlil Arnold** (Arnold's Country Kitchen); **Carey Bringle** (Peg Leg Porker); **Chris Carter & James Peisker** (Porter Road Butcher); **Trey Cioccia** (The Farm House, Black Rabbit); **Gerard Craft** (Pastaria); **Bill & Tony Darsinos** (GReKo Greek Street Food); **Nathan Duensing** (Marsh House); **Matt Farley** (Woolworth on Fifth); **Tony Galzin** (Nicky's Coal Fired); **Vui Hunt** (Vui's Kitchen, I love Juice Bar); **Daniel Lindley** (5th & Taylor); **Crystal De Luna-Bogan** (The Grilled Cheeserie Melt Shop + Food Trucks); **Sean McTiernan** (Adele's); **Kyle Patterson** (Sinema Nashville); **Jess Rice** (My Poor Tired Liver); **David Tieman** (Five Points Pizza); **Murphy Vaughn & Chris Bowater** (Silo); **Andrew Whitney** (Moto, Virago); **Tandy Wilson** (Mop / Broom Mess Hall); and more to be announced. See Friday Night line-up here: <https://www.musiccityfoodandwinefestival.com/friday-night/>

"I'm thrilled and honored to be included in the Chef Showcase. It is such a dream!" says chef **Jess Rice**. "There are so many chefs on the roster this year and I'm excited to bring my take on healthy, plant-based cuisine to the festival."

"Smiles are effortless as guests explore from table to table their passion to imbibe on sharing, learning, laughter, and yes, there is dancing! Not only are the guests having a fabulous time at Music City Food + Wine Festival, but so are the chefs," says **Deb Paquette**, chef & owner of Etch and etc. "We come together as one big team to represent ourselves and our city as guides to the sublime."

Saturday, September 15, 2018:

On Saturday, September 15, from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., the Grand Taste Tents will host the following *Chef Showcase* participants: **Kristopher Akers** (Americano); **Jessica Benefield & Trey Burnette** (Two Ten Jack, The Green Pheasant); **Larry Carlile** (Hemingway's Bar & Hideaway); **Tom Eckert** (Chauhan Ale & Masala House); **Matt Gillie** (Tànsuő); **Daniel Gorman** (Henley); **Robert Grace** (Kayne Prime); **Mike Haggerty** (Sea Salt); **Hal M. Holden-Bache** (Lockeland Table); **Jess Lambert** (Etch); **B.J. Lofback** (Funk Seoul Brother); **Michael Morales** (Sunda); **Deb Paquette**; **Nick Pellegrino** (Mangia Nashville); **Giovanni Pinato** (Giovanni Ristorante); **Brian Riggerbach** (Mockingbird); **Steven Robilio** (Saltine); **David Rule** (The Walnut Kitchen); **Ian Shordon** (Lonesome Dove Knoxville); **Joshua Simpson** (Proper Bagel); **Nina Singto** (Thai Esane); and more. See Saturday Night line-up here:

<https://www.musiccityfoodandwinefestival.com/saturday-day/>

"We really love the energy that Music City Food + Wine Festival brings," says chefs **Jessica Benefield & Trey Burnette**. "It's an incredible experience to meet new people, hang out with some of your oldest friends, and have more celebrity sightings than you can count all in one week! MCFW truly stands out as a very special event."

Tickets & More Information:

Music City Food + Wine Festival ticket options include an **All-In Ticket**, as well as **Friday Evening Ticket**, **Saturday Ticket**, **Harvest Night Ticket**, and **Gospel Brunch Ticket**. All attendees must be 21 years of age or older.

The **All-In Ticket** (\$525 per person) enables guests to experience the full weekend of Music City Food + Wine Festival programming, including the Official Drink of Nashville competition and Friday Night Throwdown and Saturday festival access; the Grand Taste cooking demos and panel discussions; more than 80 beer, wine, cocktail, and culinary tastings; access to Martin's Bar-B-Que Joint and Friends; book signings; access to Saturday's Harvest Night and Sunday's Gospel Brunch.

The **Friday Evening Ticket** (\$165 per person) includes single-day access to Friday, September 14 festival programming at Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park, including the Official Drink of Nashville competition and the Friday Night Throwdown; Grand Taste more than 80 beer, wine, cocktail, and culinary tastings; and access to Martin's Bar-B-Que Joint and Friends.

The **Saturday Ticket** (\$165 per person) includes single-day access to Saturday, September 15 festival programming at Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park, including the Grand Taste cooking demos and panel discussions; more than 80 beer, wine, cocktail, and culinary tastings; book signings; and access to Martin's Bar-B-Que Joint and Friends.

Harvest Night Ticket (\$275 per person) available as a stand-alone ticket option for Saturday evening, September 15. Harvest Night brings together signature dishes from world-renowned chefs from Nashville and across the country with a live musical performance anchored by Kings of Leon and special guests celebrating iconic disco hits of the 70s & 80s. Attendees are encouraged to dress up in their most festive Studio 54-inspired costumes for a rocking dance party under the stars at Walk of Fame Park in downtown Nashville.

Gospel Brunch (\$85 per person) will return to Walk of Fame Park on Sunday, September 16, featuring a dynamic roster of restaurants and chefs serving creative brunch favorites. Get a jump-start on the day

with eye-opening cocktails, wine, coffee, and a spirited live gospel brunch performance from Gayle Mayes.

For more information, please visit <http://www.musiccityfoodandwinefestival.com> or follow us on Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/musiccityfw/>) Twitter (twitter.com/musiccityfw) and Facebook ([Facebook.com/musiccityfw](https://www.facebook.com/musiccityfw)) #MCFW.

For media credentials, please fill out the online application here:

<http://www.musiccityfoodandwinefestival.com/press/>

Music City Food + Wine is generously sponsored by: Nashville Convention + Visitors Bureau, Toyota and FOOD & WINE.

About Music City Food + Wine Festival:

Music City Food + Wine Festival is produced by GRAMMY-award winning artists (and Nashville residents) Kings of Leon, world-renowned chef Jonathan Waxman, Vector Management's Ken Levitan and Andy Mendelsohn, and Austin-based C3 Presents — producer of Lollapalooza in Chicago's Grant Park, and Austin City Limits Music Festival in Austin's Zilker Park.

About FOOD & WINE:

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