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Preds' Roman Josi & Pekka Rinne, Titans' Kevin Byard & Logan Ryan, Lily Aldridge, Helen Johannesen, Bertha González Nieves, Mark Oldman & More Join Music City Food + Wine Festival

Seventh Annual Festival Returns September 20-22, 2019 with All-Star Roster at Friday Night's Throwdown, Meet the Maker, Tasting Sessions & Cooking Demos

Nashville, TN (September 4, 2019) – Music City Food + Wine Festival is pleased to welcome **Nashville Predators' Roman Josi** and **Pekka Rinne** as well as **Tennessee Titans' Kevin Byard** and **Logan Ryan** as celebrity sous chefs at the **Friday Night Throwdown**, sponsored by **RBC Wealth Management** and **City National Bank** and benefitting **Predators Foundation** and **Ryan Animal Rescue**, with **Lily Aldridge**, **Bertha Gonzalez Nieves**, **Helen Johannesen** and **Mark Oldman** joining the dynamic line-up of engaging **Meet the Maker** and **Tasting Sessions** during the seventh annual festival, September 20-22, 2019; <http://www.musiccityfoodandwinefestival.com>

Friday Night Throwdown:

Sponsored by RBC Wealth Management and City National Bank, each team will receive a charitable donation for competing in the Throwdown, with an additional amount awarded to the winning team. Chef **Carla Hall** will lead *Team Preds*, as defenseman **Roman Josi** and goalie **Pekka Rinne** compete on behalf of the **Predators Foundation**, which supports and builds philanthropic partnerships around Nashville: <https://www.nhl.com/predators/community/predators-foundation>. Chef **Tim Love** will lead *Team Titans*, with safety **Kevin Byard** and cornerback **Logan Ryan** competing in support of **Ryan Animal Rescue Foundation**, dedicated to aiding the animal community with financial and educational resources: <https://www.ryananimalfoundation.org>

The two teams will go head-to-head, challenged to create the ultimate game-winning meal. Nashville's own Emmy Award-winning personality and GIFFT Wines partner, **Kathie Lee Gifford**, will emcee the spirited culinary showdown, featuring a star-studded panel of guest judges. Come out and cheer on the hometown teams as they battle for the charities closest to their hearts and bragging rights in the kitchen.

Meet the Maker & Tasting Sessions:

On Friday night, September 20 and Saturday, September 21, festivalgoers are encouraged to stop by the **Meet the Maker** and **Tasting Sessions** tents to experience interactive spirits, wines and cocktails tastings led by a star-studded roster of industry pros.

Join **Helen Johannesen**, acclaimed sommelier and partner of Helen's and Jon and Vinny's in Los Angeles, for a tasting of **The Dopest Fall French Wines** on Friday night. On Saturday, wake up and enjoy **Sparkling Wines for Breakfast**.

Listen in as the first female *Maestra Tequilera*, **Bertha González Nieves**, and supermodel **Lily Aldridge** lead attendees in an intimate tasting of **Casa Dragones'** innovatively handcrafted 100% Blue Agave tequila.

Don't miss the unique opportunity to sip and savor wines of a bygone era during **Drink Back the Concorde: Supersonically Special Wines Served on "The Bird"** with wine expert and author, **Mark Oldman**. Seminar attendees will get a souvenir luggage tag that replicates the tag that the Concorde used in the 1970s. Oldman will return to lead festival attendees in a delicious discovery of what wines pair best with barbecue during **Grilling Gods: The Best Wine for BBQ**.

Join Emmy Award winning personality and GIFFT Wines partner **Kathie Lee Gifford** as she shares her life-long passion for wine and philosophy about how slowing down, savoring blessings and spending time with family and friends is a *GIFFT*. Gifford will lead the **GIFFT Wines** tasting, explaining why she loves Monterey County wines and the role she played in creating quality wines for all to enjoy.

Experience **Guinness + Cheese Pairings** while learning about the history of Guinness with a brewery expert. The guided tasting will leave attendees with a wealth of new beer knowledge.

Take a deep dive into **The History of Maker's Mark** and celebrate the spirit of craftsmanship with signature the bourbons born from a 170-year-old recipe including, *Maker's Mark* and *Markers 46*.

Savor South Walton, Florida with a tasting demo led by award-winning chef **Jim Richard** of Stinky's Fish Camp. Enjoy fresh Gulf seafood and learn the secret to whipping up an undeniable seafood gumbo with blue crab that will be expertly paired with a Provence Rosé.

Cooking Demonstrations:

On Friday night, September 20 and Saturday, September 21, festivalgoers have the opportunity to get up close and personal as chefs lead interactive and informative **Cooking Demos**.

Before the Friday Night Throwdown, find out what happens when **Down Home Meets Up Town** with **Tyler Florence** (restaurateur, chef, TV host, author and media producer) and **Martina McBride** (Country music artist, TV Host, author).

On Saturday, get a **Guacamole Master Class** with **Rick Bayless** (Frontera Grill, Topolobampo, Xoco, Leña Brava, Cruz Blanca, Frontera Cocina, Bar Sótano) and listen in as **Sarah Grueneberg** (Monteverde Restaurant & Pastificio) shares her beloved **Family Recipes**. **Aaron Sanchez** will demonstrate his take on **Fish Tacos with Mojo** while Scott Conant shares **The Secret to Risotto**.

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. Ticket prices are inclusive of all food and drink.

The **All-In Ticket** (\$525 per person) enables guests to experience the full weekend of Music City Food + Wine Festival programming, including Friday and Saturday festival access; the Friday Night Throwdown; interactive cooking demos & book signings; hands-on beer, wine and cocktail tasting sessions; tastes from Nashville's best chefs & restaurants; 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 20 Festival programming at Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park, including interactive cooking demos & book signings; Friday Night Throwdown; hands-on beer, wine and cocktail tasting sessions; tastes from Nashville's best chefs & restaurants; and more.

The **Saturday Ticket** (\$165 per person) includes single-day access to Saturday, September 21 festival programming at Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park, including interactive cooking demos & book signings; hands-on beer, wine and cocktail tasting sessions; tastes from Nashville's best chefs & restaurants; and more.

Harvest Night Ticket (\$275 per person) is available as a stand-alone ticket option for Saturday evening, September 21. Harvest Night brings together signature dishes from world-renowned chefs from Nashville and across the country with a live musical performance from Chicago Plays the Stones, two generations of Chicago Blues stars paying homage to The Rolling Stones, whose own sound was inspired by the great bluesmen of all time.

Gospel Brunch (\$85 per person) is available as a stand-alone ticket for Sunday, September 22, at Walk of Fame Park. Gospel Brunch features 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 Cedric Sesley & Out For Sous.

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

About Music City Food + Wine Festival:

Music City Food + Wine Festival is produced by founding partners Vector Management, GRAMMY-award winning artists Kings of Leon, world-renowned chef Jonathan Waxman 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:

FOOD & WINE is the ultimate authority on the best of what's new in food, drink, travel, design and entertaining. FOOD & WINE has an extensive social media following on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, Tumblr and Snapchat. FOOD & WINE includes a monthly magazine in print and digital; a website, foodandwine.com; a books division; plus newsletters, clubs, events,

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