

Beat: Arts

## **2015 FOOD NETWORK & COOKING CHANNEL NEW YORK CITY WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL**

### **\$1 MILLION TO HELP END HUNGER**

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**USPA NEWS** - The eighth annual Food Network & Cooking Channel New York City Wine & Food Festival presented by FOOD & WINE (NYCWFF) took place October 15 - 18 and comprised of more than 100 events at various locations from Wall Street to Harlem...

The eighth annual Food Network & Cooking Channel New York City Wine & Food Festival presented by FOOD & WINE (NYCWFF) took place October 15 - 18 and comprised of more than 100 events at various locations from Wall Street to Harlem. This year's Festival raised more than \$1 million for the hunger relief organizations 'Food Bank For New York City' and 'No Kid Hungry', bringing the total to more than \$9.5 million since the Festival's inception.

The charities are not the only ones who came out of the weekend as winners, with a number of participants taking home top honors for their offerings. Beginning on Thursday, October 15, Carolyn Bane of 'Pies 'n Thighs' in Brooklyn, N.Y. and Matt Fein of 'Federal Donuts' in Philadelphia, Pa. tied up Whoopi Goldberg's taste buds when she recognized their creations as her favorite dishes at her annual Chicken Coupe event.

Friday, October 16 saw winners across several events. Henry Tibensky earned a trip to the 2016 Food Network & Cooking Channel South Beach Wine & Food Festival presented by FOOD & WINE (SOBEWFF® set for February 24-28, 2016), when Martha Stewart, Martha Stewart Living; Tyler Florence, Food Network's The Great Food Truck Race; Matt Higgins, Co-Founder & CEO RSE Ventures; and Charlie Walk, Executive Vice President at Republic Records selected his restaurant concept, Hank's Juicy Beef, as the winner of the Festival's first FOODi Challenge.

Guests at Thrillist's Barbecue & The Blues hosted by Adam Richman voted Shane McBride of Pig Beach in Brooklyn, N.Y. The Pitmaster - Best in BBQ 2015 for his mini BBQ baked potatoes with pulled pork, Benton's bacon mac and cheese sauce and scallions.

The Festival's signature Blue Moon Burger Bash presented by Pat LaFrieda Meats hosted by Rachael Ray welcomed new faces to its historic league of winners

Saturday, October 17 was also bestowed top honors for several participants at various events that were part of the LOCAL presented by Delta Air Lines series.

Craft libations also took center stage as Festival winners, at The Art of Tiki: A Cocktail Showdown presented by Cocktail Kingdom hosted by Emeril Lagasse.

The cast of the Food Network prime time series Chopped came out on Sunday, October 18 for the Best Bloody Mary Brunch presented by Velocity to decide who will take top honors for their creations in three categories

NYCWFF came to an end on Sunday, October 18 at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) with the first New York City screening of the movie BURNT, followed by a panel discussion with members of the cast and director John Wells moderated by New York Times op-ed columnist Frank Bruni. Cast members Bradley Cooper, Sienna Miller, Daniel Brühl, and Sam Keeley joined Wells in giving a behind-the-scenes look at the making of the movie and anecdotes about their personal relationship with food to an audience filled with chefs, culinary personalities, media, and industry insiders.

Between NYCWFF and its sister SOBEWFF®, more than \$30 million has been raised to benefit the respective charities for each

Festival. Beyond the funds raised, both Festivals draw attention to the vibrant dining culture in their respective cities, provide economic stimulus in their communities, and serve as an invaluable platform to drive awareness and engage and inspire people to get involved in philanthropic activities.

Source : Food Network & Cooking Channel New York City Wine & Food Festival

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