



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Adriane De Ceuninck
Michigan Restaurant Association
(517) 482-5244

MICHIGAN RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES RECIPE CONTEST WINNERS

LANSING, MI –The Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA) is pleased to announce the winners of The Great Michigan Potato, The Great Michigan Pork, The Great Michigan Veal, and The Great Michigan Wheat Recipe Contests. All four contests were conducted as part of the Michigan Restaurant Show, which takes place each October in Novi and is the premier trade show in Michigan for the foodservice industry.

The Great Michigan Potato Recipe Contest was sponsored by the Michigan Potato Industry Commission. The Great Michigan Pork Recipe Contest was sponsored by the Michigan Pork Producers Association. The Great Michigan Veal Recipe Contest was sponsored by the Michigan Beef Industry Commission. The Michigan Wheat Recipe Contest was sponsored by the Michigan Wheat Program. The first place winners in each contest received a \$1,000 cash prize. Finalists all took home gift bags prepared by each commodity group.

The first place winner of The Great Michigan Potato Recipe Contest was a group of ProStart® students from Muskegon Area Career Tech Center with their Tater Taquitos. The \$1,000 cash prize will be given to their school's Chef Scott Biehl Memorial Fund scholarship.

The first place winner of The Great Michigan Pork Recipe Contest was Shane Loveall with his Pork Belly Fries with Garlic Aioli. Loveall is a personal chef.

The first place winner of The Great Michigan Veal Recipe Contest was Blake Day with his Veal Scallops with Sundried Tomato and Mushroom Sauce. Day works for Personal Catering.

The first place winner of The Great Michigan Wheat Recipe Contest was also Shane Loveall with this Farro Salad with Citrus Vinaigrette.

"Utilizing local ingredients is an established trend within the restaurant industry," said Justin Winslow, interim president and CEO of the MRA. "Not only are The Great Michigan Recipe Contests a fun way to bring attention to Michigan's outstanding commodities, they also highlight the positive working relationships between the product groups and the MRA."

Recipe entries were prepared by the Capitol Area Career Center (Lansing) ProStart® Program culinary students. Each dish was then evaluated by several industry-experts, including representatives from the Michigan Potato Industry Commission, the Michigan Pork Producers Association, Michigan Department

of Agriculture and Rural Development, Michigan Wheat Program, Michigan Beef Industry Commission and the Michigan Restaurant Association.

Competition finalists were:

The Great Michigan Potato Recipe Contest

- Ranch and Buffalo Potato Bruschetta, The Harvey Street Bistro @ the Muskegon Area Career Tech Center
- Fall Michigan Potato and Parship Soup, Chef Aaron Gaertner, Saginaw Career Complex
- Cheesy Potatoes, Noah Steiner

The Great Michigan Pork Recipe Contest

- Slow Braised Mushroom Porchetta, Chef Aaron Gaertner, Saginaw Career Complex
- Pork and Spinach Salad with Hot Apple Vinaigrette, Betsey Lackey, Alchemy Bar & Grill
- Pork Belly Poutine, Terry's Terrace
- Pork Belly with Peaches and Arugula, Blake Day, Personal Catering

The Great Michigan Veal Recipe Contest

- Pistachio Crusted Veal Loin, Shane Loveall, Personal Chef
- Osso Bucco, Master Chef Josef Huber, Amway Grand Plaza Hotel
- Veal Chops with Sweet Tomato Chutney, Chef Steven Deal, Calhoun Area Career Center

The Great Michigan Wheat Recipe Contest

- Banana Berry Spice Bread, Michael Pace, Liala's Place
- Fall Harvest Wheat Berries, Bob West, Bob's Smoked Meats
- Harvest Wheat Bread, Malasia Cole, Terrace Café
- Honey Smoked Salmon Bulgur Wheat Salad, Chef Keigh Jones, Honey Smoked Fish Co.

Each recipe can be viewed online at michiganrestaurantshow.org/recipe-contests.html

Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA) is the recognized leader of Michigan's hospitality industry, providing essential services to the foodservice community. Founded in 1921, the MRA represents nearly 4,500 Michigan foodservice establishments. The industry plays an integral role in Michigan's economy, employing more than 415,000 people and creating nearly \$14 billion in annual sales.

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