



Welcome to the 2009 California State Fair Foodstyle Building

The 2009 Foodstyle Building will include many fun and exciting opportunities for chefs. The activities will include the California State Fair Golden Bear Chef Challenge, Mystery Bag Chef Challenges and Demos, Cultural Cooking Demonstrations, and Commodity Cooking Demonstrations. Chef challenges and demonstrations are open to all California Chefs or food professionals. The General Rules section applies to all challenges. See specific contest for rules particular to the contest. **Please read the rules carefully as there have been many changes made for the 2009 Fair.** There are no entry fees for these competitions.

CHEF CHALLENGES AND DEMONSTRATIONS

The Chef Challenges and Demonstrations will take place in the California Foodstyle Building in Expo Center (Building 2). They will be performed before a live audience of fair-goers with the enhancement of professional MC's.

Chef Challenge Judges will be evaluating appearance, organizational skills during the preparation of the dish, sanitation, cooking techniques and skills, presentation of the final dish and flavor, taste, texture and doneness. Dishes should be fun, creative, and easy to prepare and showcase the "California Style of Food". After the judges have been presented their dishes to evaluate and the judging is complete the remainder of the dish will be cut into sample size pieces and served to the fair-goers.

1. **California State Fair Golden Bear Chef Challenge:** Round 1, (**August 22 at 2 p.m.**) Round 2, (**August 26 at 2 p.m.**) Round 3 (**August 30 at 2 p.m.**) and the Final Round (the first place winners from rounds 1, 2 and 3 will compete in the final round on **September 6 at 2 p.m.** for the top award). You may request a specific date for the first three rounds; however, they will be assigned on a first come first served basis.
2. **Mystery Bag and various other chef challenges:** will be held throughout the Fair in the California Foodstyle Building.
3. **Cultural Cooking Demonstrations:** Cultural cooking demonstrations will be held during the Fair. These demonstrations will feature foods from various cultures including the "Uniquely California Cuisine". For more information about these demonstrations request a "Cultural Cooking Packet"
4. **Mystery Bag demonstrations and cooking demonstrations:** These demonstrations are non competitive and will pay \$50-\$75 per demonstration depending on the sponsor. They will be held throughout the Fair.

DEMONSTRATION INFORMATION

1. The California State Fair offers many opportunities for food demonstrations. Some of these opportunities are paid and others are not. Cultural demonstrations for example are not paid demos as they can be used to promote your business. You are allowed to hand out promotional information after your demo. The State Fair will provide all ingredients for the demo. We will provide serving utensils (paper plates, napkins, etc.). Any demonstration that promotes your business is not a paid demonstration.
2. Commodity demonstrations are usually sponsored and you will be paid. All payments are made after the Fair.
3. If you have any questions as to whether a demonstration is paid or not contact the department head at the contact information listed below. If you are paid you will be required to give your social security number and sign a contract.

GENERAL RULES FOR CHALLENGES

1. State Fair will provide all ingredients.
2. Competitors will be allowed to bring his or her own tools, including small wares. The Fair does not supply kitchen small wares or tools (except those listed below).
3. Basic nutritional balance in recipe development should be considered.
4. Dish must be large enough to generously serve six people.
5. **Due to Fire Department regulations no open flame is allowed in the building. Therefore, no utensil or appliance using an open flame may be used to cook in the kitchens.**
6. Competitors will present their dishes on State Fair Kitchen dishware.
 - a. All competitors will report to the Foodstyle Building Office where they will check in one half hour before the competition starts. Late arrival may be grounds for disqualification.
7. Competitors will have from 15 to 20 minutes (depending on the challenge) to set up and test all cooking equipment.
8. Competition will begin at the official starting time.
9. Competitors will have 40 minutes to prepare and cook their entries.
10. At the end of the preparation and cooking time the judges will be presented a plate from each kitchen.
11. After judging is completed the remainder of the dish will be served to the public watching the competition.
12. Kitchens will be assigned by "the luck of the draw".
13. No alcoholic beverages except as an ingredient in your entry. Alcohol can not be served to the judges or drunk by the entrants. Drinking alcoholic beverages in front of the audience or serving it to the judges will be an automatic disqualification.
14. Each of the three kitchens will include the following:

4 burner electric stove with oven
Under the counter refrigerator
2 Compartment Sink
Microwave Oven
Blender
Electric Hand Mixer
4 place setting dish set (dinner plate, salad plate, soup bowl, and cup)
4 place setting flatware
4 piece glassware set
Large color cutting boards

More Information

California State Fair Golden Bear Chef Challenge:

Time scheduled for this challenge is from **2 p.m. to 4 p.m.** (this includes set-up, preparation, cooking, serving, judging and clean-up) Three rounds of competition will be held during the Fair (**August 22, 26, 30**) with a final round on **September 6** consisting of the first place winner from each of the three rounds.

Mystery Shopping Bag Challenges:

We will be presenting a variety of Mystery Shopping Bag Challenges in the Foodstyle Building They will last approximately one hour from start to finish. They will usually be held from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., however, they may also be scheduled at other times during the day. All ingredients will be provided—you must create a recipe with the items in the shopping bag You must provide your own small wares (other than those provided as listed above)

Awards

Challenge	First Place	Second Place	Third Place
Stare Fair Chef Challenge (Round 1,2,3)	\$200	\$100	\$50
Stare Fair Chef Challenge Final Round	\$400	\$200	\$150
Mystery Shopping Bag Challenges	\$75	\$50	\$25

Competitions are open to professional chefs only.

For more information contact:

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ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. **Entry Form:** Each participant must fill out an entry form. If you have any question regarding this form please feel free to call, write or email. Scheduling will be on a "first come-first served" bases, so it will be to your advantage to return the form as soon as possible. You do not have to include your List of Participants or Megan's Law forms at the same time you return the Entry Form. Those forms will be due on July 31, 2009. Return your Entry Form in the enclosed addressed envelope.
2. **List of Participants Form:** This list will be used to order admission passes for yourself. You will receive two admission passes for yourself. You will also receive a parking pass; however, the parking pass is only good for the lot stated on the pass. This form is due on July 31, 2009.
3. **Megan's Law Form:** This form is required in order to participate at the Fair. This form is due July 31, 2009
4. **Biography: Please include a short biography about yourself, your experience and why you choose the culinary field.**

General Information

1. The first step to being included in these special events in the California's Kitchen programs is to fill out and return the attached entry form in one of the addressed envelopes provided.
2. You will be scheduled when the entry form is received. You may list the date you wish to participate; however, there is no guarantee of getting that date.
3. After you are scheduled you will receive a confirmation call stating that you are scheduled and give you the date and time.
4. After you receive a confirmation call you will need to complete the List of Participants Form and the Megan's Law Form. They must be received at Cal Expo by July 31, 2009.
5. If you are chosen to compete and for some reason can not attend the competition you must notify the Program Assistant as soon as possible so an alternate can be chosen. Failure to do so may result in you not being able to compete in future competitions.
6. After August 1 you will receive the admission and/or parking passes.
7. You must arrive at least one half hour before your activity is scheduled to begin. You must check-in with the Program Assistant. You will be given more information at that time. If you fail to arrive in time for the Golden Bear Chef Challenge you may be disqualified.
8. If you have any questions or need more information please contact me. (Contact information listed below).
9. We are looking forward to your participation. Welcome to the 2009 California Exposition and State Fair!

INSTRUCTION SHEET

1. You will be given a phone number that you will need to call when you have parked your vehicle. A member of my staff will take a cart out to the parking lot to pick up you and your supplies. There can only be one person in each seat and no children can be carried. The carts carry 2 to 4 people depending on the size cart we have available. With this in mind and knowing that there will be two other contestants for your round of competition, be sure you arrive with enough time to get parked, picked up and taken to the building.
2. Do not enter the kitchens until you are instructed to do so. You will be allowed 15 minutes to get setup in the kitchen and test your appliances. Do not start prep work at this time. The judges will tell you when to start.
3. There will be 2 to 3 judges for each round of competition. They will start the competition and will call time at the end of the competition. They will be evaluating everything during the preparation with particular attention to food safety as well as evaluating the food prepared.
4. The judges will announce the start of the contest. You will be given 40 minutes to prepare your dish. You may begin your prep work after they start the challenge.
5. There will be an Emcee conducting the contest. He/She will introduce you at the beginning of the contest and ask you to say a little about yourself. During the contest he/she will talk to each contestant and ask you questions as you prepare your dish. This keeps the audience interested in the contest and allows you to demonstrate your showmanship.
6. You are not allowed to leave your kitchen once the contest starts, therefore, you must be sure everything you need is in your kitchen. You are not allowed to go into your competitor's kitchens or use items from their kitchens. If you do step into their kitchen you will be disqualified. If you forget an ingredient—be creative. You can use the pantry supplies in the building. If you have a question or need something get the Emcee's attention and they will assist you.
7. After you have completed your dish you will plate it for the judges. You may use the State Fair's plates or you may bring your own.
8. The Emcee will present your plate to the judges. They will sample and evaluate your dish. The dishes will be presented in the order they were completed. Once the judges have made their decisions and announced the awards the remaining food will be cut into bite size pieces and served to the audience. Remember you need to make approximately 6 servings. There will be 2 to 3 judges and the rest is used as samples. We will provide paper plates, napkins, etc. for sampling.
9. Do not start serving samples until the Emcee instructs you to begin.
10. You will receive the special State Fair Golden Bear Chef Challenge rosette ribbon at the end of the contest. The award money will be mailed.
11. After you have served the samples you must clean your kitchen.
12. You will be carted back to your vehicle. If you prefer, you may spend time at the Fair and return to the building to be carted out later in the day.

We thank you for your participation in this prestigious California State Fair competition and wish you the best