

5th Annual Foodie Camp Kicks Off October 21 in Naples 10-day series of cooking classes benefits local nonprofits

NAPLES, FL — (July 15, 2019) — Naples Originals' Foodie Camp, the annual signature fundraiser from Naples Originals' chef-led independent restaurants, returns for its fifth year October 21-30, 2019.

"Foodie Camp allows students to personally interact with restaurant chefs and owners, understanding their philosophies and techniques. Each class combines fun, learning and giving; proceeds from ticket sales benefit the culinary training programs at St. Matthews House and Naples Originals scholarships at Florida Gulf Coast University's hospitality school," notes Beth Preddy, spokesperson for Naples Originals, which created and produces the event. Since its 2015 inception, Foodie Camp has raised more than \$40,000 for its beneficiaries.

The 13 participating chefs and owners for 2019 include: Alexander Bernard (Alexander's); Brian Roland (Venue Naples & Crave Culinaire); Keith Casey (KC American Bistro); Jesse Housman (Bistro 821); Tony Ridgway (Ridgway Bar & Grill); Seth Berman (Noodles Italian Cafe & Sushi Bar); Lisa Boet (Chez Boet); Jason Goddard (Barbatella); Abel Gonzalez (Bayside Seafood Grill & Bar); Jeanne Harvey (The Real Macaw); Adam Nardis (M Waterfront Grille); Thomas Nutten, (Lamoraga), and Asif Syed (21 Spices). Additional chefs are still signing on to host Foodie Camp classes.

The 2019 schedule is listed at FoodieCampNaples.com.

Alexander's chef-proprietor Alexander Bernard kicks things off Monday, October 21, at 11:30 a.m.

Each 90-minute class is \$60, and includes a chef demonstration, a tasting of two to three courses, a glass of wine, takeaway folder for recipe notes, plus the chance to win a raffle prize comprising a chef-autographed Foodie Camp apron and a \$50 dining certificate for a Naples Originals restaurant.

ABOUT NAPLES ORIGINALS

Naples Originals (naplesoriginals.com), is celebrating its 12th year in 2019 and comprises more than 20 local, independently owned restaurants. The group's mission is to enhance Collier County's culinary and cultural strength while supporting the community's economy and authentic ambiance. Research shows that locally owned and operated businesses contribute significantly more to a local economy than chain establishments. Naples Originals quarterly gift certificate sales offer 30 percent discounts, honored at member restaurants; proceeds support Naples Originals' mission and local nonprofits throughout the year.

Visit FoodieCampNaples.com. For Foodie Camp questions call 239-404-5014.

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