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**JAMES BEARD FOUNDATION TO OFFER LIVE ONLINE STREAMING OF
2011 AWARDS CEREMONY**

**The Annual James Beard Foundation Awards to be Streamed Online for the First Time
on Monday, May 9, 2011 from New York City**

New York, NY (May 3, 2011) – Today, the James Beard Foundation announced that the 2011 James Beard Foundation Awards, the nation's most prestigious recognition program honoring professionals in the food and beverage industries, will be streamed live online from the Awards ceremony on Monday, May 9, 2011, at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall in New York City. The 2011 Awards will be the first ceremony in the history of the James Beard Foundation to be offered for viewing via webcast and will be available in real time on www.jamesbeard.org/awardslive.

The Awards will also be reported live via the James Beard Foundation's blog at www.jamesbeard.org/blog by a team that includes Chris Stang and Andrew Steinthal of Immaculate Infatuation, Fiona Tang and Amy Cao of Foodspotting, Megan Krigbaum, associate wine editor of *Food & Wine*, photographer Michael Harlan Turkell, photo editor of *Edible Brooklyn/Manhattan* magazines and host of *The Food Seen* on Heritage Radio Network, and red carpet videos and interviews by Chris and Jennifer McBride of Savory Cities and Jennifer Leuzzi of Snack. The Award winners will also be posted in real time on the James Beard Foundation's Twitter page at www.twitter.com/beardfoundation.

Tom Colicchio, Ming Tsai and Traci Des Jardins will host the James Beard Foundation Awards Ceremony and Gala Reception. During the event, which is open to the public, awards for the Restaurant and Chef and Restaurant Design and Graphics categories will be handed out, along with special achievement awards including Humanitarian of the Year, Lifetime Achievement, Who's Who and the America's Classics award honorees. During the Gala Reception immediately following, top culinary talents from across the country will serve dishes that reflect the nation's diverse and multi-cultural influences in a nod to this year's awards theme, "The Ultimate Melting Pot."

"This year, we are pleased to offer the first-ever live webcast of the James Beard Foundation Awards," says Susan Ungaro, President of the James Beard Foundation. "The web stream, along with coverage on our blog and Twitter page, will make it possible for those unable to attend the live program in New York City to enjoy this remarkable event. Now, fans all over the country will be able to celebrate with the nominees and winners—in real time—while dining out at their favorite restaurants or hosting viewing parties of their own."

Established in 1990, the James Beard Foundation Awards recognize culinary professionals for excellence and achievement in their fields and continue to emphasize the Foundation's mission: to celebrate, nurture, and preserve America's diverse culinary heritage and future. The annual James Beard Foundation Awards honor the best and the brightest talents in the food and beverage industries, celebrating outstanding achievement in each of the following categories: Restaurant and Chef, Restaurant Design and Graphics, Books, Broadcast, and Journalism, as well as several special achievement awards. Each category has an individual Awards Committee made up of industry professionals who volunteer their time to oversee the policies, procedures, and selection of judges for their respective Awards program. All award winners receive a certificate and a bronze medallion engraved with the James Beard Foundation Awards insignia. There are no cash prizes.

The 2011 James Beard Foundation Awards are presented with support by the following partners: In Association Sponsors: All-Clad Metalcrafters, Groupon; Premier Sponsors: Green & Black's® Organic Chocolate, Lenox Tableware and Gifts, Mercedes-Benz; Supporting Sponsors: The Coca-Cola Company, Delta Air Lines, Lavazza, Southern Wine & Spirits of New York, Stella Artois; Gala Reception Sponsors: Acqua Panna® Natural Spring Water, Central 24/7 Michel Richard Caesars Palace, Certified Angus Beef® Brand, Ecolab, Pernod Ricard USA, Restaurant Guy Savoy Caesars Palace, Rums of Puerto Rico, S.Pellegrino® Sparkling Natural Mineral Water; and with additional support from Chefwear and St. Giles Hotel.

About the James Beard Foundation

Founded in 1986, the James Beard Foundation is dedicated to celebrating, nurturing, and preserving America's diverse culinary heritage and future. A cookbook author and teacher with an encyclopedic knowledge about food, James Beard, who died in 1985, was a champion of American cuisine. He helped educate and mentor generations of professional chefs and food enthusiasts. Today, the Beard Foundation continues in the same spirit by administering a number of diverse programs that include educational initiatives, food industry awards, scholarships to culinary schools, and publications, and by maintaining the historic James Beard House in New York City's Greenwich Village as a "performance space" for visiting chefs. For more information, please visit www.jamesbeard.org. Find insights on food at the James Beard Foundation's blog [Delights & Prejudices](#). Join the James Beard Foundation on [Facebook](#). Follow the James Beard Foundation on [Twitter](#).