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**Contact:** Alexandra Pearson or Diane Stefani  
212.255.8455 / [alexandra@rosengrouppr.com](mailto:alexandra@rosengrouppr.com) /  
[diane@rosengrouppr.com](mailto:diane@rosengrouppr.com)

THE JAMES BEARD FOUNDATION'S  
**CHEFS & CHAMPAGNE®**  
**NEW YORK**

## **James Beard Foundation Honors Multiple Award-Winner Andrew Zimmern at Annual Chefs & Champagne® New York**

*- World's Favorite "Bizarre" Epicurean Explorer Partners with US Eyewear Leader eyebobs  
to Benefit America's Premier Culinary Organization -*

New York, NY (April 15, 2013) - This summer, the **James Beard Foundation** (JBF) will honor multiple James Beard Award-winning TV personality, chef, food writer and teacher **Andrew Zimmern** at **Chefs & Champagne® New York**, held at the Wölffer Estate Vineyard in Sagaponack, New York. The creator, host and co-executive producer of Travel Channel's hit series, *Bizarre Foods with Andrew Zimmern* and *Bizarre Foods America*, will be feted at the Foundation's annual sumptuous tasting party and fundraiser on Saturday, July 20, 2013. **Chefs & Champagne® New York** will feature flowing Champagne, the wines of Wölffer Estate Vineyard, Stella Artois® Belgian lager, and culinary offerings from a select group of over 35 fine chefs, many from JBF Award-winning restaurants.

"I never thought my 'bizarre' culinary journey would include a stop in the Hamptons, where I will join the ranks of such prestigious past Chefs & Champagne honorees including Thomas Keller, Wolfgang Puck and Emeril Lagasse," said Andrew Zimmern. "I am humbled by this recognition, and grateful to be able to give back to an organization so near and dear to my heart with the launch of my collaboration with eyebobs."

This year's gracious guest of honor has announced a charitable partnership with [eyebobs](#), a leading U.S. eyewear company specializing in reading glasses. Launching just in time for Father's Day, a portion of the proceeds from "The Zimm," Zimmern's new style of limited-edition eyeglass frames, will be dedicated to furthering the James Beard Foundation's mission and programs. "The Zimm" follows eyebobs's 2012 collaboration with style icon Iris Apfel and the company's 2011 collaboration with Katie Couric.

"An internationally-renowned, multiple James Beard Award-winning television personality, chef, and food writer, Andrew truly is one of the most innovative and multi-talented individuals in the food world today," said Susan Ungaro, president of the James Beard Foundation. "We are thrilled to honor him for all of the work he has done to enlighten eaters around the world, broadening our culinary spectrum and assisting us in making more informed choices for the future."

**Chefs & Champagne® New York** is considered the East End's premiere culinary event. Funds raised at the event help support the James Beard Foundation's wide variety of initiatives, including culinary student scholarships and the organization's annual food conference on sustainability, public health, and nutrition. A silent auction consisting of fine dining experiences, wines and spirits, cookware, and culinary travel packages will also raise funds for the organization.

With a long tradition of supporting culinary education, the James Beard Foundation will also announce the recipient of the Christian Wölffer Scholarship at the event. Established in 2006, the scholarship fund supports students in their study of food and wine. As of 2013, the James Beard Foundation has awarded more than \$4.5 million in financial aid to 1,570 recipients throughout the country.

**Chefs & Champagne® New York** main event will take place from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm on Saturday, July 20, and is open to the public—reservations are \$200 for James Beard Foundation members and \$275 for non members. General admission includes all tastings, silent auction bidding opportunities and gift bag. VIP premium admission, beginning at 5:00 pm, is \$375 for James Beard Foundation members and non members. VIP tables of 10 are available for \$4,000. The VIP experience includes an additional exclusive reception hour with early access to all tastings, reserved table seating, advanced silent auction preview, gift bag and invitation to the VIP after-party. Reservations can be made by calling (212) 627-2308 or at [jamesbeard.org/chefsandchampagne](http://jamesbeard.org/chefsandchampagne). To become a member of the James Beard Foundation, click [here](#).

“The Zimm” frames can be pre-ordered today on [www.eyebobs.com](http://www.eyebobs.com), and will also be available for purchase on site at Chefs & Champagne® New York.

**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, instilling in them the value of wholesome, healthful and delicious food. Today the Beard Foundation continues in the same spirit by administering a number of diverse programs that include educational initiatives, food industry awards, scholarships for culinary students, publications, chef advocacy training, and thought-leader convening. The Foundation also maintains the historic James Beard House in New York City's Greenwich Village as a “performance space” for visiting chefs. In September of 2012, the Foundation launched the Diplomatic Culinary Partnership with the U.S. Department of State's Office of Protocol and helped create the American Chef Corps as a way to champion American chefs abroad, promote American food products and foster an interest in American culinary culture and history through international programs and initiatives. For more information, please visit [www.jamesbeard.org](http://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](#) and [Instagram](#).

**About eyebobs**

Founded in 2001 in Minneapolis, MN, eyebobs designs stylish eyewear for people who demand distinctive, high-quality readers with an irreverent attitude. Luxurious in every way but price point, eyebobs encourages people to invest in frames while tongue-in-cheek names such as “Catcher in the Eye,” “Buttoned Up” and “Gone Public” keep them smiling. What's more, each pair offers UV protection and comes with a protective case.