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JAMES BEARD FOUNDATION

James Beard Foundation Announces Call for Entries for the 2015 James Beard Foundation Awards ~ *New categories are also added* ~

NEW YORK, NY (October 15, 2014) – The James Beard Foundation (JBF) today announced that the call for entries for the 2015 James Beard Foundation Awards will officially open October 15. In addition, new categories will be added to the JBF Restaurant and Chef Awards, as well as to the JBF Book, Broadcast, and Journalism Awards.

The **JBF Restaurant and Chef Awards**, the culinary industry's most prestigious recognition program, will add a new **Outstanding Baker** category. The Outstanding Pastry Chef category remains in place.

"The Outstanding Baker award grew from our desire to honor those professionals working beyond the restaurant dessert realm," said Restaurant and Chef Awards committee chair Phil Vettel. "Along with Outstanding Pastry Chef, this award acknowledges the vitality of the pastry and baking professions, in restaurants and in bakeries of many kinds, and the importance of bread and dessert to the dining experience."

In addition, the **JBF Book, Broadcast, and Journalism Awards**, honoring the nation's top cookbook authors, culinary broadcast producers and hosts, and food journalists, have added two new categories for Broadcast Media: **Podcast** and **Visual and Technical Excellence**.

"Since the mission of the James Beard Foundation is to inspire as well as educate through food, the Broadcast Awards committee has created a new category, for Visual and Technical Excellence, where our judges can give unbridled recognition to the individuals whose technical skills and creative sense so beautifully capture the artistic and even emotional aspects of food through the visual medium," explained Broadcast Awards committee chair Emerald Yeh. "The committee has also decided to give podcasts their own category, since they are a distinct and dynamic category that is growing. We look forward to a robust competition in that field."

To submit an entry or to view the full list of 2015 James Beard Foundation Awards programs and deadlines, please visit jamesbeard.org/awards. Entries for the Book; Broadcast and New Media; Journalism; and Restaurant Design categories can be submitted [here](#). Entries for Restaurant and Chef Award nomination consideration have a separate portal, which is [here](#). Please note that one may submit up to two entries per subcategory of the Restaurant and Chef awards.

Deadlines for submissions are as follows: December 15, 2014 for Book Awards; December 31, 2014 for Restaurant and Chef Awards; January 9, 2015 for Broadcast and New Media Awards; January 9, 2015 for Journalism Awards; and January 31, 2015 for Restaurant Design Awards. The Restaurant and Chef Award semifinalists will be announced February 18, 2015. Finalists for every award category will be revealed on March 24, 2015.

The James Beard Foundation Awards Ceremony and Gala Reception will be held at the Lyric Opera of Chicago on May 4, 2015. During the JBF Awards event, which is open to the public, awards for the Restaurant and Chef and Restaurant Design categories will be handed out, along with special achievement awards Humanitarian of the Year, Lifetime Achievement, Who's Who of Food and Beverage in America, and America's Classics. A gala reception will immediately follow, featuring top chefs and beverage professionals from across the country. The James Beard Foundation Book, Broadcast, and Journalism Awards will be held at Pier Sixty at Chelsea Piers in New York City on April 24, 2015.

Established in 1990, the James Beard Awards recognize culinary professionals for excellence and achievement in their fields. Each award category has an individual 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 JBF Award winners receive a certificate and a medallion engraved with the James Beard Foundation Awards insignia. There are no cash prizes. The JBF Awards are open to any industry professional who meets the criteria. James Beard Foundation membership is not required for participation in the nomination process or to win an award. Ballot tabulation is handled by Lutz and Carr, an independent accounting firm.

For more information about the James Beard Foundation Awards, please contact Yvon Ros at 212.627.2090 or email yros@jamesbeard.org.

About the James Beard Foundation (JBF)

Founded in 1986, the James Beard Foundation celebrates, nurtures, and honors America's diverse culinary heritage through programs that educate and inspire. 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 JBF 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, JBF 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. One such project is the next world's fair, Expo Milano 2015, for which the James Beard Foundation is co-leading the effort for the State Department to design and produce the USA Pavilion, a global gathering of 147 countries addressing the challenges of how we will feed ourselves in the future. The pavilion, whose theme will be "American Food 2.0: United to Feed the Planet," will showcase America's contributions to global food security and gastronomy. For more information, please visit 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](#).

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