The James Beard Foundation (JBF) and the International Culinary Center (ICC) are proud to announce that, in association with the American Chamber of Commerce in Italy, our organizations will partner with the newly-formed nonprofit "Friends of the U.S. Pavilion Milano 2015" to present the USA Pavilion at the Milan Expo.

The Office of the Press Secretary of the White House made the announcement in an October 17 Fact Sheet release about U.S. – Italy Cooperation, which reported: "President Barack Obama hosted the President of the Council of Ministers of the Italian Republic Enrico Letta at the White House on October 17, 2013. The visit highlighted the vitality of the relationship between the United States and Italy."

Here is an excerpt from the release:

Milan Expo 2015: In partnership with the James Beard Foundation and the International Culinary Center, and in association with the American Chamber of Commerce in Italy, the Friends group will work for a vibrant U.S. presence at the Milan Expo. Its goal is to use state-of-the-art digital media and other novel approaches to showcase American leadership and innovation in global food security, agriculture, and cuisine and lay the seeds for enhanced trade and investment between the United States and Italy in this sector, so important to the cultural heritage of both nations.

Read the full release from the White House here.