

For Immediate Release:

12:00noon (EST), Monday, January 29, 2018

Contact for the James Beard Foundation:

Diane Stefani /Damira Bowles

The Rosen Group: 212.255.8455

Diane@rosengrouppr.com/ Damira@rosengrouppr.com



The James Beard Foundation Names Clare Reichenbach as Chief Executive Officer

~ Mission-driven strategist assumes new role February 20 ~

NEW YORK, NY (January 29, 2018) – Clare Reichenbach has been appointed Chief Executive Officer of the James Beard Foundation (JBF). The announcement was made by Frederic M. Seegal, chair of the culinary nonprofit organization's board of trustees.

Effective February 20, Reichenbach (pictured), founder of CJJR Consulting and a former executive vice president of Strategy and Business Development at BBC Worldwide and AMC Networks, succeeds Susan Ungaro, who stepped down as JBF president at the end of 2017.

“After an extensive search, the JBF Search Committee unanimously selected Clare to lead the James Beard Foundation and build on the thought leadership initiatives and ground-breaking Impact Programs implemented over the past 11 years,” said Seegal and Emily Luchetti, JBF board chair emeritus, in a joint statement. “The decision was made with input from a wide range of internal and external stakeholders on who would be the right person to expand the impact and operational strength of the Foundation on a global level. In her previous positions, Clare has demonstrated the leadership and strategic vision to oversee the continuing evolution of the Foundation, whose mission is to celebrate, nurture, and honor chefs and other leaders making America's food culture more delicious, diverse, and sustainable for everyone.”



As CEO, Reichenbach, 44, will work with the JBF staff and the board of trustees in directing the strategic, programmatic, financial, and management operations of the James Beard Foundation. Her responsibilities will include overseeing the James Beard Foundation Awards; the JBF Women's Leadership Programs; the James Beard House dinners and events around the country; the Foundation's scholarship programs; and the JBF Impact Programs, which include the Chefs Boot Camp for Policy & Change, the JBF Food Summit, and the JBF Leadership Awards.

“It'll be a privilege to explore new ways for the Foundation to be at the forefront of the culinary conversation, advocate for its wide-reaching initiatives, and provide support to this unique community of change agents,” said Reichenbach, who will report to the JBF board of trustees. “I am greatly looking forward to working with the Foundation's dedicated staff in strengthening its role as an indispensable organization for culinary leaders around the world.”

At CJJR Consulting, Reichenbach's clients included New York Public Radio, NBCU, and Samsung. Prior to that, she was EVP of Strategy & Business Development for both AMC Networks and BBC Worldwide. At the BBC, she was responsible for the development and implementation of corporate and divisional strategies; developed the organization's global commercial strategy; and led strategy for BBC's television arm. Her accolades include *CableFAX*'s "Most Powerful Women in Cable," *Multichannel News*' "Women to Watch," and *Management Today*'s "35 Women Under 35." Reichenbach has a B.A. from Oxford University and completed the Advanced Management Program from Harvard Business School.

About the James Beard Foundation (JBF)

Founded in 1986, the James Beard Foundation celebrates, nurtures, and honors chefs and other leaders making America's food culture more delicious, diverse, and sustainable for everyone. A cookbook author and teacher with an encyclopedic knowledge about food, the late James Beard 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. For more information, please visit jamesbeard.org. Get food news, recipes, and more at the James Beard Foundation's blog, or subscribe to the free digital newsletter Beard Bites. Follow @beardfoundation on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, and Snapchat. Watch the James Beard House Kitchen Cam, James Beard Awards, and more on the Foundation's Livestream channel. Find more JBF-related video on the Foundation's YouTube channels.

###