

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Sold-Out Top Chef Tribute Announces Exciting Series of Events Central Coast Wine Meets Top Chef Competition

For the past 6 years, The Wellness Kitchen (TWK) and Resource Center's big annual event has been a Top Chef Competition and Fundraiser. Local chefs from San Luis Obispo county go "head-to-head" in a timed competition similar to the popular Food Network TV show "Chopped." A distinguished panel of judges comprised of notable members of our community then taste the creations and determine a winning chef. A famous local media member covers the event as our emcee and it draws in a large crowd every year.



This year, TWK changed it up to pay tribute to those volunteer chefs, judges, and emcees, and introduce their new Top Chef Series and Competition Events for 2019. **On November 29th, The Wellness Kitchen held a successful holiday fundraiser - the Top Chef Tribute – and Executive Director, Gina Grieb introduced the 2019 Top Chef Series and Competition for a crowd-pleasing finale.**

While there remains only one Top Chef Competition at the end of 2019, three different wineries will host a showcase dinner throughout the year featuring a guest chef of their choice who will create a menu paired with the host winery's selection. Each dinner will still meet the dietary standards of The Wellness Kitchen by being dairy-free and gluten-free, organic, seasonal, and locally sourced as much as possible.

"At previous Top Chef events, our guests told us they wished to taste the food made by each chef," says Grieb. "Our new Top Chef Series allows guests to enjoy an entire meal - paired with wine - prepared by our participating chefs."

This year, it was announced that **Cypher Winery, J Dusi Wines, and Peachy Canyon Winery are the three wineries that will be selecting their chef to participate as a team in the 2019 Top Chef Series and Competition** where each chef's meal is not only judged for deliciousness, but also how well it pairs with the respective wine(s).

Early in 2019, The Wellness Kitchen will release the names of the participating chefs and the dates for all four events.

"Top Chef is our largest fundraiser of the year," says Grieb. "We sell out every year, but this 7th annual competition will be bigger and better than ever."

Community participation and sponsorship ensures TWK can continue their mission to provide Healing Foods to those in critical need, along with education, resources, and nourishing meals for individuals wanting to regain or sustain optimal health. Funds raised by TWK support their Pay It Forward Program; Healthy Cooking Programs for Kids, Teens and Adult; and the Operation Sustainability.

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The Wellness Kitchen and Resource Center is a nonprofit organization in Templeton, CA whose mission is to provide Healing Foods to those in critical need, along with education, resources, and nourishing meals for individuals wanting to regain or sustain optimal health. For more information, to order meals, or register for events, visit <http://www.thewkrc.org/>.

