

Chef Charlie Trotter Sponsors BCA Culinary Event at Upcoming Gala in New York City

NEW YORK CITY, N.Y., March 9 (SEND2PRESS NEWSWIRE) – Internationally recognized Chef Charlie Trotter will become the first Chef to officially sponsor the BCA, a culinary and hospitality organization that focuses on advancing diversity within the industry. Electrolux Professional will be the chair and title sponsor in celebrating diversity at the BCA's 18th Annual Gala and Cultural Awareness Salute March 12th, 2011, at the New York Marriott Marquis.

Supporting corporate sponsors include Hobart, Marriott, Restaurant Associates-Compass, Food Network, Sodexo, Beam Global, Tyson Foods and Irinox among other supporters at this trademark annual event focused on increasing diversity awareness and advancement in the industry.

Now in its 18th year, the BCA's Cultural Awareness Salute honors the achievements of people of color in the hospitality and culinary business, provides a space for industry networking and dialogue about the advancement of diversity, and gives culinary students from around the country the opportunity to cook alongside nationally renowned chefs Season Six Top Chef Ron Duprat, Sodexo Executive Chef Tim Pitts, Restaurant Associates-Compass Chefs Marc Payeros and Rolando Rivera, and BCA Chef de Cuisine coordinators.

The gala will begin with a VIP and cocktail reception, followed by a multi-course dinner, Viennese reception, and dancing and entertainment throughout the night. The gala dinner will give a taste of the future of the industry with four courses and wine pairings prepared by students.

"Our support of the BCA affords us the opportunity to 'walk the talk' and I believe the BCA will make the Industry stronger by focusing on career opportunities in the industry," comments Mark Whalen, Senior Vice President of Global Accounts.

BCA will also honor role models and leaders at the annual black tie Cultural Awareness Salute. Honorees include: Bernard Carmouche, Culinary Director of Chef Emeril's Homebase and Corporate Headquarters, South African Restaurateur Mark Moodley and Internationally recognized Jamaican Chef Anthony Miller. The evening will also include special presentations by the Food Network, and the South African Consulate.

About BCA Global:

The BCA is a nationwide non-profit, educational and networking organization of hospitality and food service professionals. Incorporated as a 501(c)(3) in 1998, our mission is to create exposure and provide educational and professional opportunities for culinary and hospitality professionals of color. We accomplish this objective by providing quality educational and

employment resources, job coaching, mentoring and assistance with placement, and networking support. Additionally, the BCA exposes inner-city high school students to the culinary arts through a series of workshops that serve to introduce culinary arts as a viable career option.

More information: <http://www.bcaglobal.org> .

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