

The Valley's Culinary Stars Align As Cooks & Corks Returns

Official kickoff to next year's Scottsdale Culinary Festival, Cooks & Corks tempts with top Valley chefs serving an al fresco feast at Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale, on Nov. 14, 2014

Who: Fine food and wine fans, locavores and anyone else interested in savoring an exciting new culinary event showcasing the state's finest chefs.

What: This fall, the Valley's top culinary stars will be cooking under a glittery sky at **Cooks & Corks, a one-night-only, self-guided outdoor culinary tasting event spotlighting Arizona's top local chefs and a world-class collection of winemakers.** Presented by [Earnhardt Cadillac](#) and [Scottsdale League for the Arts](#), the charitable organization that hosts the annual [Scottsdale Culinary Festival](#) and The Friends of James Beard Benefit Dinner, Cooks & Corks will be hosted under the stars at the Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale at Troon North's lush [Fountain Terrace](#) lawn. Here, amidst the sweeping city views, **Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale Executive Chef Mel Mecinas** will whip up a spectacular multi-course tasting menu, along with other prominent Valley chefs. The lineup includes Roberto Madrid, Chef de Cuisine at deseo at the Westin Kierland Resort and Michael Lamey, Executive Sous Chef at the JW Marriott Phoenix Desert, with additional prominent chefs. Plus, purchase a VIP ticket and enjoy an exclusive pre-event Mix & Mingle, where attendees can savor gourmet hors-d'oeuvres while chatting it up with the chefs themselves.

Putting the "Corks" in Cooks and Corks, attendees will also have the chance to savor a globe-straddling collection of fine spirits, wines, and craft beers supplied by [Hensley Beverage Co.](#) Plus, popular local band, Lark and Key will provide the evening's soundtrack, inspiring guests to dance under the stars.

Longtime Valley food fans might remember Cooks & Corks as a former annual event at the Scottsdale Culinary Festival. But now this revised rendition of Cooks & Corks is a standalone event designed specifically to spotlight Arizona's finest chefs, foods, and wines—all in a sumptuous, self-guided setting. All net proceeds raised will support the non-profit Scottsdale League for the Arts in its effort to promote the Arts and Arts Education in Arizona, via annual fundraisers such as the Scottsdale Culinary Festival and The Friends of James Beard Benefit Dinner.

General admission tickets (price \$125) and VIP Mix & Mingle with the Chefs to Corks & Corks (price \$175) will be limited to 400 attendees.

When: Friday, November 14, 2014

VIP Mix & Mingle with the Chefs (5:30 – 6:30 pm); General Admission (6:30 – 10 pm)

Cost: General Admission: \$125. VIP: \$175 Tickets can be purchased at www.cooksandcorks.org

Where: Four Seasons Resort at Troon North

10600 East Crescent Moon Drive

Scottsdale, AZ 86262

480-515-5700

www.cooksandcorks.org,

The Scottsdale League for the Arts is a nonprofit (501)(c)3 charitable organization that raises funds for the arts and arts education programs throughout Arizona. Since 2001, the League has contributed more than \$4 million to numerous organizations benefiting children, such as Ballet Arizona, Childsplay, Free Arts of Arizona, Greasepaint Youth Theatre, Jazz in Arizona, Phoenix Boys Choir and the Scottsdale Center for the Arts. For additional information about the League or about becoming a member or volunteer, contact SLA at 7309 E. Evans Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85260, by phone at (480) 945-7193, or visit the website, www.LeagueForTheArts.org, or www.ScottsdaleFest.org