

TEXAS SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF PRESS RELEASE

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What Keeps Austin Weird? Southwest-Asian Fusion Cuisine, For One Thing

Texas School for the Deaf Hosts 6th Annual Deaf Culinary Bowl March 7, 2015

Austin, Texas – March 5, 2015 – Similar to the reality television show “Iron Chef”, the Texas School for the Deaf (TSD) is proud to host the 6th Annual Deaf Culinary Bowl – a culinary competition for high school students from across America who are deaf and hard of hearing, March 7, at the [Art Institute of Austin](#) (AIA).

With Southwest-Asian Fusion as the challenge theme, three courses - each created around one special ingredient - are submitted for judging before a five-star panel of distinguished Austin chefs – Executive Chef, Mark Dayanandan from the downtown [Hilton Austin](#), [Sway](#)’s Executive Chef, Alexis Chong, and AIA’s Certified Executive Chef and Instructor, David Holtzman.

This Saturday, students from California School for the Deaf-Riverside, Missouri School for the Deaf, and TSD will be facing the 2014 Deaf Culinary Bowl champions from California School for the Deaf–Fremont.

The competition begins at 9:00am, March 7, at the Art Institute of Austin – 101 West Louis Henna Boulevard in Round Rock, following a full day of preparations, including a pickling workshop and a few culinary stops which are well-known thanks to so many network TV food shows placing Austin on the world’s culinary map.

A visit here is certainly not complete without seeing - and tasting - what makes central Texas the culinary mecca it’s now so famously known to be. Group outings to a few of the area’s foodie hotspots also give these aspiring chefs the opportunity to sample an array of our Texas capitol city’s local flavors.

Upon arrival today, teams take in South Congress Avenue’s First Thursday, and try some of the area’s popular food trailers for lunch Friday.

Then for dinner, after gathering their provisions at [Whole Foods Market](#) and readying each cook station at AIA, the group head’s south to [Crepe Crazy](#) - a local Deaf family-owned business in nearby Dripping Springs Texas, and to “downtown Drippin” for USDA organic, GMO-free frozen yogurt and homemade ice cream, compliments of [The BIG Drip Ice Cream Parlor](#).

Following the competition Saturday at AIA, everyone visits one of downtown Austin’s largest state-of-the-art kitchens to take in a tour and enjoy a spectacular sugar demonstration with chefs at the Hilton Austin. Then finally, the ultimate foodie experience is capped off with a celebration, featuring none other than good ol’ Texas pit BBQ at the [Salt Lick](#) in Driftwood.



“We welcome the out-of-town teams to Austin, and to TSD - right in the heart of the famed South Congress district, says TSD Superintendent, Claire Bugen.

We wish each competing team the best of luck in the 6th annual Deaf Culinary Bowl competition, and while here, Bugen continues, our mission is for our guests to experience first hand, what “Keep Austin Weird” is all about.”

- WHAT:** 6th Annual Deaf Culinary Bowl
Hosted by Texas School for the Deaf
- WHEN:** Saturday, March 7, 2015
9:00 am – 12:00 noon
Teams arrive in Austin Thursday, March 6, through Sunday, March 8
- WHERE:** Competition held at the Art Institute of Austin
101 West Louis Henna Blvd, Suite 100
Round Rock, Texas 78728
- MORE:** Six-person teams competing from Texas School for the Deaf, California School for the Deaf-Riverside, California School for the Deaf-Fremont and Missouri School for the Deaf must complete three courses, each in under 30 and 45 minutes, to submit for judging, presenting their best efforts in (1) appetizers-utilizing quail, (2) entrees-created with beef flank steak, and (3) desserts-which must incorporate mango in each recipe.
- LIVE-STREAMED:** For public viewing. <http://bit.ly/DeafCulinaryBowl2015>

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ABOUT THE TEXAS SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF (TSD)

The Texas School for the Deaf is the oldest continuously operating public school in Texas. Educating students of Texas who are deaf and hard of hearing since 1856, TSD also provides outreach and educational resources for students, their families and professionals in the field throughout the state of Texas. With educational excellence and a strong belief in a culture and community at TSD, students form a unique identity based on their individual strengths and talents. TSD is an environment where students learn, grow, and belong. For more information about the Texas School for the Deaf, visit <http://www.tsd.state.tx.us/>.

