

For Immediate Release: February 4, 2009

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Calling all Chili Cooks – It's Time to Warm Up the Crowd

Area Restaurants Compete at Inaugural Winter Chili-Festival in Providence

Local Charities to Benefit



Cooks from several Rhode Island restaurants will be cooking up traditional and creative types of chili for the first [Winter Chili-Festival](#) at the Rhode Island Convention Center on February 27, 2010. This exciting NEW family event will create a **chili lover's paradise** as it takes over the entire 5th floor of the center.

Culinary demonstrations, a chili pepper eating contest, chili cook-offs, a Chinese Auction, a children's play area, and a tailgate lounge with adult beverages and sports on large screen televisions, are sure to please people of all ages. The exhibit hall will feature displays with merchants exhibiting a variety of other related food items, home consumer products, chili-themed accessories and much more. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors. Children under 12 are admitted free.

The authentic vintage [Star Diner](#) of Rumford will prepare and serve their best traditional chili. [The Rhode Island Quahog Company](#) of North Kingstown and Newport will offer (what else?) Quahog chili. Their recipe has won awards in previous chili-cookoffs. A delicious Nigerian brothy concoction with marinated meat, jalepena peppers, and African beans will be entered in the "Free Style" chili category by the [Village Restaurant of Pawtucket](#).

These restaurants welcome challenges from other area restaurants and venues as they compete in the **People's Choice Competition**. All chili styles are welcome at the Winter Chili Festival so the public can enjoy a variety of traditional and creative recipes. Exhibit space for restaurants, vendors and sponsorship opportunities are available to organizations wishing to reach this lucrative family demographic. Information and registration forms can be obtained at www.chili-festival.com or by calling (401) 213-9766.

A separate competition, the **Rhode Island 2nd Annual State Cook-Off** is open to individual competitors who are International Chili Society (ICS) members. They may compete in one of five divisions: Red, Chili Verde, Home Style, Salsa, and a special division for young cooks less than 18 years of age.



The Chili Festival Group was inspired by a few individuals who have a passion for cooking, competition, community, charity and having a great time with others. Their mission is to ensure that everyone wins by cooking, competing, attending, exhibiting, sponsoring, fundraising, participating, tasting, voting, and learning

about chili. In addition, a secondary goal is to provide the ICS chefs with winter venues that create additional opportunities for them to advance to the annual World Cook-Off held annually in the fall.

Participating cooks and the businesses and organizations they represent will benefit by engaging with and educating their existing and prospective customers while entertaining them and thus providing reasons to remember them long after the festival.

The Winter Chili-Festival appeals to families and others looking for affordable fun and the many simple pleasures the festival atmosphere will provide. At least two trends identified by JWT's Trendletter support the fact that inexpensive family outings such as this festival are going to be of great interest and value.

[Prevent Child Abuse Rhode Island](#) and the [J. Arthur Trudeau Memorial Center](#) and [Big Sisters of Rhode Island](#) will all benefit from the Winter Chili-Festival proceeds and donations.

Calendar Listing

Who: All ages. \$15 per adult, \$10 per student and senior, Children under 12 free

What: Winter Chili-Festival, the first ever in Providence

When: Saturday, February 27, 2010 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Where: Rhode Island Convention Center, 1 Sabin Street, Providence, RI

Why: For fun, education and to benefit local charities

More: www.chili-festival.com, info@chili-festival.com, (508) 889-8113

More Chili Info

www.chilicookoff.com – International Chili Society (ICS)

http://www.chilicookoff.com/History/history_of_chili.asp - history of chili

http://www.chilicookoff.com/FactsFun/FactsFun_Home.asp - chili facts and fun