

ASOLO REPERTORY THEATRE

PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MICHAEL DONALD EDWARDS MANAGING DIRECTOR LINDA DIGABRIELE



For Immediate Release

April 18, 2014

Asolo Repertory Theatre Presents its Fourth Annual Men Who Cook Event

Savor scrumptious cuisine prepared by 26 of Sarasota and Bradenton's most well-respected gentlemen! Asolo Rep's fourth annual Men Who Cook, sponsored by Mattison's, ABC 7 and *Style* magazine, will be held on **Sunday, May 4, 2014 at 6pm** at Mattison's Bayside at the Van Wezel. Guests will have the opportunity to try all of the chefs' signature dishes – ranging from Moussaka to "Slap Ya Mama" BBQ Ribs. This fun, casual event, chaired by Beverly Bartner, Judi Gallagher, Molly Schechter and Margaret Wise, will benefit Asolo Rep's 2013-14 season. The event will also feature a cocktail hour, old-fashioned cake auction, a table decor competition, surprise contests, a dessert and coffee bar and the much-anticipated "Parade of Chefs."

"Live theatre is one of the oldest forms of entertainment with a freedom of speech aspect hidden within. You lose yourself in the written words acted out by talented folks. And Men Who Cook is all of this and more. It is pure fun and theatrics. And what better way to celebrate the first rate productions of our talented Asolo Rep professional and student actors!" said Beverly Bartner, Men Who Cook Co-Chair.

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Men Who Cook

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Chefs:

J. Scott Atkins, Managing Director and Market Investment Director of Southwest Florida at U.S. Trust

John Bowman, Business Development Manager of Octex LLC and Director of Eternal Summer Surf Camp

Frank Buzan, President & CEO of JA Moody Company

Chris Cogan, Managing General Partner of Southeast Venture Holdings, LLC

Dean Eisner

Jerry Feinstein

Paul Gallagher, IB Coordinator/Assistant Principal of Riverview High School

Scott George, Director of Development at Community AIDS Network

Jack Gibson, President & CEO of MoJack, Inc.

Brad Goddard, Senior Relationship Manager of PNC Wealth Management

Christian Hershman, Chef/Owner of State Street Eating House + Cocktails

Darrell Huntley

Michael Krempel, President & CEO of Michael Urban Hair Studio

Ed Machado, Owner/Founder of The Taste of Venice

Paul Mattison, Executive Chef & Proprietor of Mattison's

Terrence "Terry" McKee, President & CEO of NUOVO Salon Group

Ron Pantello

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Men Who Cook

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Michael Pleas, Bartender for Jack Dusty at The Ritz-Carlton Sarasota

Scott Ramsey

Brian Ries, Entertainment Editor at Herald-Tribune Media Group

Steve Sabato, Director of News & Digital Content at ABC 7

Jeff Sedacca, President of Shrimp and Aquaculture at National Fish & Seafood, Inc.

Gary W. Sweetman, President of Gary W. Sweetman Photography & Digital Imaging, Inc.

Jon Thaxton, Director of Community Investment at Gulf Coast Community Foundation

Richard L. Van Buskirk, D.O., Ph.D., Van Buskirk Osteopathic

Robert Vukovich, Chairman and Founder, InfaCare Pharmaceutical Corporation

"The men who cook are the stars of this Asolo Rep production, complete with wardrobe and choreography. It's hard to tell who has more fun – the guys enjoying their limelight or the guests enjoying their creations," said Molly Schechter, Men Who Cook Co-Chair.

Individual tickets are \$150 and are available at www.asolorep.org/menwhocook or by contacting the Asolo Rep Special Events Department at SpecialEvents@asolo.org or 941.351.9010 ext. 4702. Tables for 10 people are also available for \$2,000 or \$1,500.

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