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CONTACT:

BALTZ & COMPANY

SARAH ABELL, 917.584.8567

[SABELL@BALTZCO.COM](mailto:SABELL@BALTZCO.COM)

SUZANNAH MAY, 704.998.7695

[SMAY@BALTZCO.COM](mailto:SMAY@BALTZCO.COM)

## ***Austin Food + Wine Festival Announces Line-up, Schedule & Program***

*Tickets on Sale for Eighth Annual Festival, April 26 – 28, 2019, Presented by C3 Presents and FOOD & WINE*

Austin, TX (January 24, 2019) – **Austin Food + Wine Festival** announces the chefs restaurants, wine & spirits and musical line-up for the eighth annual festival, **April 26-28, 2019**. Tickets go on sale today, **January 24, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. CT**, at [www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com/tickets](http://www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com/tickets).

The eighth annual festival will feature more than 100 chefs, restaurants and wine & spirits experts over three days at Auditorium Shores and Fair Market, including the return of Friday night's **Grillin' and Chillin'** hands-on, interactive dinner party hosted by chef/festival partner **Tim Love**; the star-studded **Rock Your Taco** competition on Saturday night; **Sunday Gospel Brunch**; engaging **cooking demonstrations** featuring **Monogram Appliances**; pitmasters and chefs cooking over interactive **Fire Pits** as well as an expanded live fire experience from **Contigo Catering & Friends**; tastes from local **chefs and restaurants**; dynamic **wine, beer & cocktail tastings**; **live music**; **book signings**; and more.

"We are so proud of what we have built over the past eight years with Austin Food + Wine," says festival partner **Tim Love**. "This is always a weekend to remember, and this year will be no different as we welcome some of the greatest chefs in America to Texas!"

On Thursday, April 25, the pre-Festival **Feast Under the Stars**, an intimate outdoor dinner celebration, will once again be hosted at Austin's Auditorium Shores. This five-course, family-style meal with wine pairings from **Jackson Family Wines** will be held on Festival grounds before the weekend kicks off with a collaborative menu from chefs **Michael Fojtasek** (Olamaie); **Kristen Kish** (Arlo Grey); **Stephanie McClenny** (Confituras Little Kitchen); **Grae Nonas** (Carpenters Hall); and **Nicholas Yanes** (Juniper). Feast Under the Stars tickets are \$250/per person (inclusive of wine pairings and parking) and must be purchased separately from any Festival tickets at [www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com/tickets](http://www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com/tickets).

The Festival officially starts on Friday, April 26, with the return of Grillin' and Chillin', Tim Love's ultimate hands-on grilling dinner party hosted at Auditorium Shores. This event offers All-In ticket holders the opportunity to sharpen their skills as they join Love for an interactive and lively night of grilling, drinks and dinner, all underneath the Austin skyline. Grillin' and Chillin' attendees will have their own grill to share with a partner as Love guides them through the menu, all while imparting tips for how to become a grilling expert. Grillin' and Chillin' is exclusively included with the All-In ticket and will be the only time that the hands-on grilling demo will be offered throughout the weekend.

On Saturday, April 27, and Sunday, April 28, the Festival grounds will come alive with cooking demonstrations, book signings and an interactive area where chefs will cook over live **Fire Pits** and offer tastes to attendees throughout the weekend. The Fire Pits will provide interactive experiences cooking with live fire from local and national pitmasters and chefs, including **Sonya Coté** (Eden East, Hillside Farmacy); **Lance Kirkpatrick** (Stiles Switch BBQ &



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Brew); **Evan LeRoy** (LeRoy and Lewis) and **Wayne Mueller** (Louie Mueller Barbecue). New this year, **Contigo Catering and Friends** will offer an expanded fire pit experience helmed by **Andrew Wiseheart** (Contigo) with more special guests to be announced.

The festival will showcase a dynamic roster of local chefs and restaurants in the Grand Taste. Enjoy signature dishes from participants including: **Jeff Balfour** (Southerleigh Fine Food & Brewery); **John Bates & Brandon Martinez** (Noble Sandwich Co.); **Stephen Bonin** (Geraldine's); **Daniel Brooks** (Licha's Cantina); **Jeff Brown** (Old Thousand); **Thomas Calhoun** (Aviary Wine & Kitchen); **Jo Chan** (Eberly); **Ji Peng Chen** (Wu Chow); **James Cole** (Jacoby's Restaurant & Mercantile); **Austin Ewald** (Grizzelda's); **Alexandra Gates** (Cochineal Marfa); **Taylor Hall** (Apis); **Sarah Heard & Nathan Lemley** (Foreign & Domestic); **Ethan Holmes** (Mattie's); **Clinton Kendall** (East Side King); **Lance Kirkpatrick**; **Geronimo Lopez** (Botika); **Jason McVeary & Trisha Fortuna** (Poke Poke); **Brian Moses** (Olive & June); **Ashley Neave** (Forthright); **Josh Neises** (Lonesome Dove Western Bistro); **Steve Nelson** (Wild Kitchen + Bar); **David Norman** (Easy Tiger Bake Shop & Beer Garden); **Daniel Olivella** (Barlata Tapas Bar); **Ling Qi Wu** (Lin Asian Bar + Dim Sum); **Sterling Ridings** (Guild); **Maribel Rivero** (Yuyo); **James Robert** (Fixe); **Ryan Samson** (Vespaio); **Charles Schlienger** (Sway); **Eric Silverstein** (The Peached Tortilla); **Anthony Sobotik** (Lick Honest Ice Creams); **Lakana Sopajan-Trubiana** (DEE DEE ATX); **Carmen Valera** (Tamale House East); **Kevin Williamson** (Ranch 616); with more chefs and restaurants to be announced.

"It's an absolute honor to be a part of the 2019 Austin Food + Wine Festival," says chef **Lakana Sopajan-Trubiana** of DEE DEE ATX. "I would never have believed it if you told me three years ago that I'd have the opportunity to share my family's food and traditions from my little village! Food always brings me back home, even though I'm on the other side of the world. I'm excited to share the dishes I love and I hope people can experience a real part of Thai history and culture through my cooking, and in a way, become a part of my extended family!"

**Rock Your Taco**, Saturday evening's signature tasting event at Fair Market, will bring out the competitive side of all participants, with a live musical performance by **Jai Malano**, an Austin-based singer/songwriter. Chefs will square off against one another to create the ultimate taco, with winners chosen by an esteemed panel of judges. Rock Your Taco competitors include: **Tatsu Aikawa & Takuya Matsumoto** (Ramen Tatsu-Ya, Kemuri Tatsu-Ya); **Tyson Cole** (Hai Hospitality); **Andrew Curren** (ELM Restaurant Group); **Jason Dady** (Jason Dady Restaurant Group); **Tiffani Faison** (Big Heart Hospitality); **Sarah Grueneberg** (Monteverde); **Antonia Lofaso** (DAMA, Scopa Italian Roots, Black Market Liquor Bar); **Tim Love**; **Fermin Núñez** (Suerte); **Aarón Sánchez** (Johnny Sánchez); **Chris Shepherd & Nick Wong** (UB Preserv); **Nancy Silverton** (Mozza Restaurant Group); **Max Snyder** (Pitchfork Pretty); **Jonathan Waxman** (Barbuto, Jams, Brezza Cucina, Adele's); and **Andrew Zimmern** (TV Personality, Lucky Cricket).

A star-studded collection of sommeliers, wine, beer & spirits experts help round out the Austin Food + Wine Festival line-up, including **Devon Broglie** (Master Sommelier, associate global beverage buyer, Whole Foods); **Craig Collins** (Master Sommelier, Italian portfolio sales manager, Vintus); and more to be announced.

Additional programming announcements will be made over the course of the spring; please visit [www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com](http://www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com) for more information and updates.

Tickets for the 2019 Austin Food + Wine Festival go on sale Thursday, January 24, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. CT at [www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com/tickets](http://www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com/tickets).

#### All-In (\$625/per person)

The *All-In* ticket includes Saturday and Sunday Festival access; interactive cooking demos & book signings; hands-on beer, wine and cocktail tasting sessions; wood-fired culinary creations from the Fire Pits; tastes from over 40 of Austin's best chefs & restaurants; Friday night's Grillin' and Chillin' with Tim Love; Saturday night's signature *Rock Your Taco* competition; and more.



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### Weekender (\$250/per person)

The *Weekender* ticket includes Saturday and Sunday Festival access; interactive cooking demos & book signings; hands-on beer, wine and cocktail tasting sessions; wood-fired culinary creations from the Fire Pits; tastes from over 40 of Austin's best chefs & restaurants; and more.

*All-In* and *Weekender* tickets can be purchased at [www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com/tickets](http://www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com/tickets). All attendees must be 21 years of age or older. For more information, please visit [www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com](http://www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com), or follow us on Instagram [@austinfoodwine](https://www.instagram.com/austinfoodwine), Twitter [@austinfoodwine](https://twitter.com/austinfoodwine) and [Facebook.com/austinfoodwine](https://www.facebook.com/austinfoodwine).

For press credentials, please fill out the online application here: <http://www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com/press-application/>

The Austin Food + Wine Festival is generously sponsored by Toyota, HEB, Monogram Appliances, Republic National Distributing Company, Stella Artois and FOOD & WINE.

#### **About Austin Food + Wine Festival:**

The Austin Food + Wine Festival marks a compelling collaboration between C3 Presents and some of Texas' most exciting chefs and restaurateurs, including Tim Love, Iron Chef Champion and owner/chef of TLC Catering, Woodshed Smokehouse, Love Shack, White Elephant Saloon, Queenie's Steakhouse, and Lonesome Dove Western Bistro across Texas and Tennessee, and Restaurateur Jesse Herman. C3 Presents is the Austin-based event company that produces Lollapalooza in Chicago's Grant Park, and Austin City Limits Music Festival in Austin's Zilker Park. The Austin Food + Wine Festival will take place April 26-28, 2019, bringing an array of taste, talent and culinary entertainment to the Capital City. Please visit [www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com](http://www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com) for future details on the event.

#### **About FOOD & WINE**

FOOD & WINE is the ultimate authority on the best of what's new in food, drink, travel, design and entertaining. FOOD & WINE has an extensive social media following on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, Tumblr and Snapchat. FOOD & WINE includes a monthly magazine in print and digital; a website, [foodandwine.com](http://foodandwine.com); a books division; plus newsletters, clubs, events, dinnerware and cookware. FOOD & WINE is a registered trademark of TI Inc. Affluent Media Group, a subsidiary of Meredith Corporation.



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