



LOCAL NON-PROFIT'S BOARD MEMBER AND VOLUNTEER CHEF SELECTED FOR SEASON SIX OF BRAVO'S "TOP CHEF"

FT. LAUDERDALE, FL. (August 7, 2009) – Roll out the red carpet. Chef Ron Duprat, Executive Chef at the Hollywood Beach Marriot and a board member of Florida Introduces Physical Activity and Nutrition to Youth (FLIPANY) is sharpening his knives, saying good-bye to South Florida's sandy shores – temporarily – and heading to the city of neon lights to prove his culinary talent on Bravo's "Top Chef: Las Vegas," which premieres Aug. 19, 2009 at 9 pm.

This fall, Chef Ron Duprat will compete against 16 Chef'testants in Bravo's sixth season of the number one food show on cable television. The Chef'testants will battle in a series of elimination challenges to test their culinary abilities, innovativeness, and [most of all] their ability to outperform the competition and take home the coveted and notable title of "Top Chef."

"I am not surprised that Chef Ron was selected to be on season six of Top Chef," announced FLIPANY Executive Director Lynne Kunins. "He has been teaching the youth in our community for the past year how to increase their culinary skills. If he creates anything close to what he creates with the kids [in class] on the show then he is sure to please the judges; his food is delicious! And, what a personality – I can't wait to see him on TV!"

A native of Haiti, Duprat began cooking alongside his grandmother as a means of survival on the island – fishing the waters and gathering fresh produce from their garden. Following his passion for cooking, Duprat studied at some of the most innovative culinary schools in the world, including the College Aimee Cesaire and La Varenne Ecole de Cuisine. He has also collaborated with such greats as Emeril Lagasse, Adam Savage, Ingrid Hoffman, and Pierre Doussan, to name just a few.

Absorbing the flavors and culture from his worldly travels, Duprat has combined these tastes with his own Haitian-Creole influences to create unique, flavorful menus for Heads of State, various dignitaries, and world-class resort guests. A few of his signature dishes include, fresh ahi tuna served with a sweet orange mint dipping sauce; jumbo scallops with sweet chili Tahiti sauce and a watermelon and avocado slaw; Rasta pasta with Caribbean jerk chicken; and his signature flourless chocolate cake.

Meet Chef Ron in October for FLIPANY's 1st annual Palate to Palette fundraiser; visit our website for updates of how to get involved! To volunteer, support, or learn more about Florida Introduces Physical Activity and Nutrition to Youth, a.k.a. FLIPANY, contact Lynne Kunins at 954-636-2388 or via Lkunins@flipany.org, and visit our website at www.flipany.org for more information.

FLIPANY is a Florida non-profit organization dedicated to the health of South Florida residents by providing affordable physical activity and nutrition education to children, teens, and adults. FLIPANY serves over 3,300 participants per year with over 300 volunteers and 4 staff members. FLIPANY's staff consists of registered dietitians and fitness professionals to ensure the community has the tools they require to change their health!

Chef Duprat resides in Hollywood Beach, FL, volunteers and serves on the Board of Directors for FLIPANY, is also affiliated with the Black Culinaris Association, The American Culinary Federation, Real Men Charities, and the College of Culinary Arts in Miami, FL. For more information regarding Chef Duprat and Top Chef: Las Vegas, contact Victoria Brody at victoria.brody@nbcuni.com

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