

PALM DESERT FOOD & WINE

PRESENTED BY
AGUA CALIENTE CASINO RESORT SPA
MARCH 24-26, 2017

****MEDIA ALERT****

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**PALM DESERT FOOD & WINE PRESENTED BY AGUA CALIENTE CASINO RESORT SPA
ANNOUNCES LINEUP OF ALL-STAR CHEFS AND EXTRAORDINARY PROGRAMMING FOR
THE HIGHLY ANTICIPATED CULINARY EVENT ON MARCH 24-26, 2017**

The anticipated festivities include a soirée at the iconic Ford Estate, Gerald and Betty Ford's newly restored home; "An Evening in New Orleans" featuring renowned Chef Tory McPhail of Commander's Palace; the return of the James Beard Gourmet Four-Course Luncheon; and more



(L-R: PDFW 2016 James Beard Gourmet Four-Course Luncheon; Grand Tasting)

WHAT: [Palm Desert Food & Wine](#) presented by Agua Caliente Casino Resort Spa and produced by *Palm Springs Life* releases its 2017 outstanding epicurean programming for the 7th annual culinary event on **March 24-26, 2017**. For the first time ever, the festival presents unparalleled pre-events, such as the much-anticipated **"Celebrity Chef Reception" at the Ford Estate**, featuring bites from award-winning Chef, and Bravo TV "Top Chef" contestant, **Brooke Williamson** accompanied by a tour of Gerald and Betty Ford's former home. Executive Chef **Tory McPhail** of Commander's Palace will also host **"An Evening in New Orleans" at Toscana Country Club**, sharing delectable bites of Creole cuisine.

The festivities begin on Friday, March 24, 2017 at The Gardens on El Paseo with an afternoon reflecting the pinnacle of culinary excellence, a **James Beard Gourmet Four-Course Luncheon** featuring emcee and distinguished food expert, critic, and author **Gail Simmons**. Served in an elegant setting, the luncheon will be beautifully prepared by four standout chefs, including “Top Chef” fan favorite, **Casey Thompson**; James Beard award-winner **Gale Gand**; Commander’s Palace Executive Chef and James Beard award-winner **Tory McPhail**; and Craveable Hospitality Group’s Executive Pastry Chef **Zac Young**. The events continue with grand tastings and demonstrations from some of the country’s best culinary talent, such as **Aarti Sequeira**, host of Food Network’s “Aarti Party” and Season 6 winner of “Food Network Star”; and **Brent Ridge and Josh Kilmer-Purcell**, founders of “Beekman 1802,” reality TV show personalities, and cookbook and memoir authors; among others.

The event will feature exceptional tastings, lunches, cookbook signings, and demonstrations (with more to be announced soon), including:

- **“An Evening in New Orleans” at Toscana Country Club**, where Chef Tory McPhail will kick start the revelry on Thursday, March 23
- **James Beard Gourmet Four-Course Luncheon** on Friday, March 24 with emcee Gail Simmons, food expert, *Food & Wine* Special Projects Director, and judge on Bravo’s *Top Chef*
- **“Celebrity Chef Reception” at the Ford Estate** on the evening of Friday, March 24, where guests can meet and mingle with Gail Simmons and indulge in a one-of-a-kind meal expertly prepared by Brooke Williamson, along with a tour of the restored home
- **Two Days of Grand Tastings** on Saturday, March 25 and Sunday, March 26, featuring tastings from 42 celebrated restaurants plus demonstrations from excellent culinary talent, and wines poured from over 60 vintners

On sale now, tickets for individual events range from \$35-200, with additional package and VIP options. Please continue to visit palmdesertfoodandwine.com for updates and details on full programming of events, chefs, wineries, sommeliers, and breweries participating at the 7th Annual Palm Desert Food & Wine presented by Agua Caliente Casino Resort Spa.

Palm Desert Food & Wine will donate 35 meals for every festival ticket purchased to Coachella Valley’s FIND Food Bank, which provides food and essentials to those in need throughout the community.

WHEN: Friday, March 24 through Sunday, March 26, 2017

WHERE: Palm Desert’s iconic shopping district The Gardens on El Paseo in the Ferguson Grand Tasting Tent

TICKETS: Tickets are available for purchase by visiting:

www.palmdesertfoodandwine.com or by calling 888.596.1027

PHOTOS: Images of Palm Desert Food & Wine (2016), for pre-event coverage, are available to view/download by clicking [here](#).

SOCIAL MEDIA: [Facebook \(@palmdesertfoodandwine\)](#)
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[#PDFW #PDFWFESTIVAL](#)

MEDIA CREDENTIALS: Please continue to regularly check www.palmdesertfoodandwine.com for updates on programming and access to media credential request forms. For media inquiries, please email: PDFW@wagstaffworldwide.com.

SPONSORS/PARTNERS: 2017 sponsors for Palm Desert Food & Wine presented by Agua Caliente Casino Resort Spa include: City of Palm Desert; Lexus; Better Built Inc.; Effen Vodka; Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery; Celebrity Cruises; Shamrock Foods; Hotel Paseo; Chef Works; TRIO Restaurant; VOSS Artesian Water; Verterra; North Shore Living Herbs; Selvarey Rum; Sandy Young; Eventscape; My Little Flower Shop; and media sponsors KMIR, KPSE, LIVE Magazine, Valpak, and The Standard.

About Palm Desert Food & Wine presented by Agua Caliente Casino Resort Spa

Palm Desert Food & Wine presented by Agua Caliente Casino Resort Spa is owned and operated by *Palm Springs Life*; produced by Tony Marchese; and with sponsorship support in part from City of Palm Desert; Lexus; Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery; Better Built Inc.; Celebrity Cruises; Shamrock Foods; Hotel Paseo; Chef Works; TRIO Restaurant; VOSS Artesian Water; Verterra; North Shore Living Herbs; Selvarey Rum; Sandy Young; Eventscape; My Little Flower Shop; and media sponsors KMIR and KPSE. The annual food and wine event gathers the brightest and most inspired chefs and culinary personalities from around the country for three extraordinary days of food and wine tasting. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Coachella Valley's FIND Food Bank. For more information visit www.palmdesertfoodandwine.com or visit us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), or [Twitter](#).

About Palm Springs Life

Palm Springs Life has represented the greater Palm Springs area for nearly 60 years. Its award-winning monthly publication is a reflection of the special lifestyle of the desert resort communities. *Palm Springs Life's* monthly editorial content includes: social scene; upcoming events including major golf and tennis tournaments; luxury homes; fine dining; fashion; travel; the arts; and profiles of celebrity and business leaders.

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For more information, please contact Rachel Dubin or Vanessa Kanegai at Wagstaff Worldwide:

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