

# The Washington Post

## Embassy Chef Challenge

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At least five embassy chefs will cook and compete for honors at the first Embassy Chef Challenge, a gala fundraising event for Cultural Tourism DC next week.

Representing Afghanistan, Haiti, Hungary, Madagascar and Morocco, the chefs will create tastings of appetizers, main courses and desserts for hundreds of guests. The event also will include a silent auction, cocktails and entertainment.

The public will vote on a people's choice award, but other prizes, including best of show, will be decided by a panel of celebrity judges: Carla Hall, Alchemy Caterers and "Top Chef"; Rock Harper, Ben's Next Door and "Hell's Kitchen"; Ris Lacoste, Ris (opening this summer); Kaz Okochi, Kaz Sushi Bistro; Michel Richard, Citronelle and Central; Art Smith, Art and Soul; and author Gail Scott. Washington Post Food section editor Joe Yonan will chair the panel.

The event is scheduled for 6:30 to 10 p.m. March 25 at the Mexican Cultural Institute, 2829 16th St. NW.

Proceeds will benefit Cultural Tourism DC, an independent coalition of more than 200 culture-, heritage- and community-based organizations. Tickets are \$225. For more information, visit <http://www.culturaltourismdc.org> or call 202-661-7581.