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Contact: Traci Mayer

Email: traci@hantx.org

Hotel Culinary Teams Earn Golden Tickets to World Event

(Dallas) — Visitors to hotels in the North Texas region are in for some real treats when it comes to what they eat. That was never more evident than Monday, July 24, when more than a dozen hotel chef teams participated in a special qualifier for the World Food Championships (WFC).

WFC and Dallas College hosted a special event for the Hotel Association of North Texas, which includes more than 200 members throughout the North Texas area.

Nine of those teams earned their way into the 11th Annual WFC, which will be held at the Centennial Hall of Fair Park, November 8-12. The event is often described as the cooking version of March Madness and attracts more than 300 teams from around the world as they cook their way through challenges that could reward them with more than \$100,000 in prize money.

“This is always one of our most competitive and impressive qualifiers,” commented Mike McCloud, the founder of WFC. “The level of talent and passion represented by HANTX members is second to none. Every single dish we saw in this qualifier was creative and unique.”

This was the third year that HANTX partnered with WFC and Dallas College to showcase the talents of its hospitality members.

“Our hotel chefs are an incredibly innovative and talented group of individuals that have passion for what they do. That passion shows through their culinary creations that delight their hotel guests and groups. This qualifier is a wonderful way to showcase their skills and creativity,” said Traci Mayer, executive director of HANTX.

The winning teams that will advance to the November event represented the following hotels:

- 1 Omni Las Colinas
- 2 W Dallas
- 3 Remington Hotels
- 4 Westin Galleria Dallas
- 5 Hilton Anatole Team 2
- 6 Hilton Anatole Team 3
- 7 Sheraton Dallas
- 8 Renaissance Dallas
- 9 Hilton Lincoln Centre

While showcasing the industry of food and hosting chefs from all over the world, WFC is open to the public and features numerous tasting and VIP experiences. To learn more about the event, which is now partnered with IMG, a global leader in sports, entertainment, food and fashion, visit www.TasteWFC.com.

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About HANTX

The Hotel Association of North Texas (HANTX) is one of the most active hotel associations in the country. We give voice to businesses in the hospitality industry on issues ranging from new industry guidelines to legislation. Members include all sizes of lodging establishments and various hospitality partners from audio visual to transportation providers that support this vital industry. HANTX supports the industry through advocacy efforts, educational programming, workforce development and scholarships and take part in efforts to give back to our community through various volunteer opportunities.

About World Food Championships

The World Food Championships (WFC) is the highest stakes Food Sport competition in the world. This multi-day, live event culinary competition showcases some of the world's best cooks who compete for food, fame and fortune in 12 categories (Bacon, Barbecue, Burger, Chef, Cocktail, Dessert, Live Fire, Rice/Noodle, Sandwich, Seafood, Soup and Vegetarian). Each year as Food Sport kicks off in January, thousands of cook teams try to earn their way into WFC by winning a Golden Ticket at an official qualifier. Almost 40 countries and every state in America have been represented at WFC's main event since its inception in 2012.

About IMG

IMG is a global leader in sports, fashion, events and media. The company manages some of the world's greatest athletes and fashion icons; owns and operates hundreds of live events annually; and is a leading independent producer and distributor of sports and entertainment media. IMG also specializes in licensing, sports training and league development. IMG is a subsidiary of Endeavor, a global sports and entertainment company.