

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, July 20, 2010

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“MASTERCHEF” STARTS COOKING TUESDAY, JULY 27, ON FOX

NATIONWIDE SEARCH BRINGS 50 AMATEUR HOME COOKS TO LOS ANGELES TO VIE FOR FIRST-EVER “MASTERCHEF” TITLE

Top 14 Revealed Tuesday, August 10

Sharpen your knives and fire up your stoves! Famed chef Gordon Ramsay’s newest culinary competition series, MASTERCHEF, based on the smash international hit, is set to start cooking Tuesday, July 27 (9:00-10:00 PM ET/PT) on FOX. After a nationwide search for the best home cooks in America, the series will turn one of 50 hopefuls into a culinary star and America’s first-ever MASTERCHEF.

In the premiere episode, the hopefuls will have one hour to prepare their signature dishes and present them to the distinguished MASTERCHEF judging panel: Michelin-starred chef Gordon Ramsay; restaurateur and wine maker Joe Bastianich; and the youngest four-star chef in America, Graham Elliot. The judges are looking for passion, creativity and most importantly great flavor and taste. Only the most deserving home cooks who impress the judges will win the coveted white apron and will move on to the next round of the competition.

On Tuesday, Aug. 3 (9:00-10:00 PM ET/PT), the judges will reveal the Top 30, and each week, the stakes will be raised as more hopefuls are eliminated until the Top 14 are announced on Tuesday, Aug. 10 (9:00-10:00 PM ET/PT). Then, beginning Wednesday, Aug. 18 (8:00-10:00 PM ET/PT), the show moves to a new night and expands to two-hour episodes as the hopefuls dish out their absolute best in an effort to impress the judges and continue in the competition.

Below are the hometowns, professions and dishes of the 50 home cooks:

HOMETOWN	NAME	PROFESSION	LOVES TO COOK...
California			
Anaheim	Sheena Zadeh	Marketing Executive	Pork Tenderloin with Braised Fennel and Spaetzle in Orange Sauce
Felton	Jake Gandolfo	Construction Worker	Eclectic Surf and Turf
Glendale	Faruq Jenkins	Bartender	Chic and Cozy Colbert Mac and Cheese
Long Beach	Stevie Cannone	Longshoreman	Lamb on Vanilla Sweet Potato
Los Angeles	Sharone Hakman	Financial Advisor	Za’atar-Dusted Lobster with Roasted Corn Chutney, Tostones and Anchovy Chili Cilantro Sauce
Redondo Beach	Mike Kim	Server	Duck “Ssam” Wraps
Santa Clarita	Christopher Spradley	Unemployed	Beach Bum’s Beer Cheese Soup
Venice	Lee Knaz	Bartender	Herb and Panko-Crusted Rack of Lamb with Fennel Mint Risotto
Venice	Whitney Webster	Marketing Rep	Pan-Seared Halibut with Fennel Citrus Salad and Green Quinoa
Whittier	Adeliz Garcia	Legal Assistant	Trio of Tostones with Red Wine, Balsamic Reduction and Sundried Tomato Cream Sauce
Woodland Hills	Ryan Wesley	Dockworker	Wally’s Wing Sandwich

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HOMETOWN	NAME	PROFESSION	LOVES TO COOK...
Colorado			
Denver	Charmaine Cheung	Assistant to the Attorney General	Seared Curried Scallops with Truffled Oysters, Mushrooms and Creamy Coconut Rice
Denver	Darryl Pierce	Public Relations	Smoked Baby Back Ribs with BBQ Baked Beans and Cole Slaw
Florida			
Boca Raton	Paul Berger	Attorney	Frutti di Mare
Boynton Beach	Jennifer Fresard	Car Sales	Yucca and Sweet Potato-Encrusted Fish Served on a Bed of Jicama Slaw Dressed in a Ginger-Lime Vinaigrette Finished with a Passion Fruit Aioli
Miami	Barbara Estevez	Office Manager	Arroz con Pollo
Georgia			
Atlanta	Steven Kowalczuk	Mixologist	Bang Bang Shrimp
Atlanta	Tracy Nailor	Doctor	Smothered Chicken with Braised Brussels Sprouts
Duluth	Robin McMahan	Sales Associate	Roast Pork Tenderloin with Vinegar Peppers
Marietta	Joseph McKenna	Medical Consultant	Triscuit-Encrusted Tuna with Peppered Swiss
Roswell	Lizbeth Harrison	Artist	Chicken Tarragon
Illinois			
Aurora	Scott Fischer	Sales Executive	Roasted Coconut Shrimp with Pineapple-Honey Red Pepper on Baby Spinach Compound Butter
Chicago	Sheetal Bhagat	Teacher	Chicken Tikka Masala
Jacksonville	Randy Twyford	Farmer	Loaded Potato Casserole
Naperville	Kristina Svec	Homemaker	Italian Sushi
Kansas			
Cedar Point	Josh Hoy	Rancher	Filet of Beef
Louisiana			
Harvey	KimDung "Slim" Huynh	Student	Vietnamese Chicken Rice
New Orleans	Max Almerico	Sales Manager	New Orleans-Style Barbecue Shrimp
Vacherie	Avis White	Elderly Caregiver	Catfish Acadiana with a Vegetable Medley and Garlic Bread
Massachusetts			
Boston	Anthony Carbone	Server	Veal Saltimbocca with Pasta Aglio and Oven-Roasted Tomatoes

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HOMETOWN	NAME	PROFESSION	LOVES TO COOK...
Massachusetts (cont'd)			
Newton Centre	David Miller	Software Engineer	Bouillabaisse
Peabody	Jennifer Thall	Homemaker	Chicken Florentine Salad with Garlic-Lemon Vinaigrette Infused with Pomegranate
Shrewsbury	Michael Tomaiolo	Pharmaceutical Sales	Zuppa di Pesce
Mississippi			
Poplarville	Whitney Miller	Student	Blackened Catfish Tacos with Mango Chutney
Nevada			
Las Vegas	Jodi Amorusa	Homemaker	Artichoke Tortellini
New Jersey			
Keasbey	Tamar Poyser	Unemployed	Curry Lobster over Jasmine Rice
New York			
Massapequa	Tom Cosma	Mortgage Broker	Pasta e Fagioli
New York City	Craig Baker	Homemaker	Smokey Cuban Sloppy Joe with Sofrito Slaw and Mojito-Encrusted Corn
New York City	Katerina Duarte	Homemaker	Katerina's Moqueca (Brazilian Seafood Stew)
New York City	Leigh Glatt	Actress	Wild Alaskan Salmon with Crushed Fingerling Potatoes and Sautéed Chard in a Lemon Dijon Emulsion
New York City	Grace Ramirez	Content Producer	Abuela's Carne en Coco (Shredded Coconut Meat with Sweet Plantains and Cilantro Rice)
Woodbury	Roberto Liuzzo	Photographer	Artichoke Trio
Texas			
Alvarado	Joe Gill	Equipment Builder	Chipotle Lime BBQ Cornish Game Hen with Roasted Garlic and Chipotle Potatoes and Sautéed Green Beans with Jalapeño and Bacon
Arlington	Aundrea Richardson	Bomb Squad Canine Handler	Blackened Catfish with Crawfish, Shrimp Etouffee and Garlic Cheese Biscuits
Dallas	Azmina Aboobaker	Attorney	Chicken Biryani with Cucumber Raita
Eules	Jenna Hamiter	Homemaker	Stuffed Buttermilk Pancakes with Fresh Berries and Pure Maple Syrup
Wylie	Hollie Dorethy	Homemaker	Southwest Seafood and Avocado Salad with Chipotle Lime Dressing Served in Grilled Avocado and Roasted Poblano Pesto

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HOMETOWN	NAME	PROFESSION	LOVES TO COOK...
Virginia			
Arlington	Suzzette James	Pharmaceutical Representative	Tilapia Fish Tacos with Mango Salsa
Washington			
Seattle	Linda Nicholson	Real Estate	Minted Dungeness Crab Cakes with Kaffir Lime and Lemongrass Sake Beurre Blanc
Seattle	Emme Ribeiro	Server	Seared Scallops in Creamy Palm Oil Shrimp Sauce and Coconut Rice with Okra and Milanese

MASTERCHEF is produced by Reveille, Shine TV and One Potato Two Potato and is based on a format created by Franc Roddam and Shine TV. Shine International handles distribution for the MASTERCHEF format. Elisabeth Murdoch, Franc Roddam, Mark Koops, Howard T. Owens, Gordon Ramsay, Adeline Ramage Rooney, Pat Llewellyn, JD Roth and Todd Nelson serve as executive producers.

[EDITOR’S NOTE: For episodic photos and more information on MASTERCHEF, please visit <http://www.foxflash.com/div.php/main/page?aID=1z2z2z308.>]