

THE 9th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL

Risotto Festival

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2011

2 - 6 PM

A Benefit For



The Children's Assessment Center

THE HOUSTON DESIGN CENTER
7026 OLD KATY ROAD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HOUSTON'S TOP CHEFS TO COMPETE AT THE INTERNATIONAL RISOTTO FESTIVAL - NOV 13

Tickets Now on Sale!

HOUSTON, TX (October 13, 2011) – Fans of fine food and wine are cordially invited to attend one of Houston's finest culinary festivals. **The International Risotto Festival** will be held on **Sunday, November 13 from 2 – 6 pm** at **The Houston Design Center** www.TheHoustonDesignCenter.com. This gourmet strolling event includes an afternoon of delicious Italian foods and wines including samplings of delicious antipasti; tastings of all the risotto entries; music and entertainment; exotic cars; raffle drawing; children's play area with activities for kids; and designer showroom tours.

Tickets are now on sale and may be purchased online at www.RisottoFestival.com for \$65 per person. Festival Tickets at the gate will be \$75 per person and children under 12 are free. VIP tickets are also available for \$125 per person and include special parking and access to the VIP lounge where guests can mingle with participating chefs and judges, sip fine wines and enjoy a selection of antipasti and desserts. Reserved wine tables with seating for 6 guests and VIP privileges are available for \$1,250 each.

This year's culinary competition benefits The Children's Assessment Center www.cachouston.org. The Children's Assessment Center's mission is to provide a professional, compassionate and coordinated approach to the treatment of sexually abused children and their families and to serve as an advocate for all children in our community.

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Some of Houston's top chefs will be cooking in this year's competition including last year's winner, Executive Chef Jon Buchanan of *Trevisio*. Chef Buchanan will be joined by executive chefs Scotty Campbell – Viking, Ricky Cruz – *Grotto*, Renato DePirro – *Ristorante Cavour/Hotel Granduca*, Maurizio Ferrarese – *Quatro/Four Seasons*, David Grossman – *Branch Water Tavern*, Michael Holderfield – *The Art Institute*, Steve Marques – *The Tasting Room*, Carmelo Mauro – *Carmelo's*, Michel Mazza – *Tratoria Il Mulino*, Humberto Molina-Segura - *VIDA*, Michael Pellegrino – *Max's Wine Dive*, John Sheely – *Mockingbird Bistro*, Jamie Zelko- *Zelko Bistro*, Andreas Zierau – *Café Moustache* and others to be announced.

Event sponsors include Imola Ceramica, Thorntree Slate and Marble, Casa Vinicola Zonin, McDuGald-Steele Landscape Architects, Arcodoro, Jaguar North Central, GLOSS, Momentum Jaguar, Peroni, PrimeLiving and Goodtaste with Tanji. Showroom sponsors include Belle Maison Designs, Bunch & Shoemaker, Charles Ray & Associates, Charlotte Nail Antiques, Design House, Inc., Durango Doors, Fabric House, Fixtures & Fittings, Kitchen & Bath Concepts, Leisure Collections, LGI Oriental Rugs, Lighting Treasures, Manchester Carpet, MCA Systems, Post Modern Traditions, Pride of Persia Oriental Rugs and Randall Edward Design.

Serving as Honorary Chair of the 2011 International Risotto Festival is the **Consul General of Italy, Fabrizio Nava**. Consul General Fabrizio Nava graduated from the University of Rome "La Sapienza" in 1993 with a degree in Political Science. He joined the Italian Foreign Service in 1995. His assignments have included posts in New Delhi, India and Ottawa, Canada. The Honorable Nava was appointed Consul General of Italy and he and his family moved to Houston in July of 2010.

For more information, contact Aubre Barr at (713) 986-3370 or visit www.RisottoFestival.com.

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