*Amateur Contestant Application
Soulard Mardi Gras Cajun Cook-Off 2017

Cook-off Event: Saturday, February 11, 2017, Noon till 4:00pm

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS January 16, 2017
(Application must be received at the Mardi Gras Inc office by 5pm on January 16)

***An Amateur is someone who has no formal culinary training and/or work experience.** ____________________

COMPLETE <u>ALL</u> THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION.

Contestant's Name: ____________________ **E-mail:** ____________________

Street Address: ____________________ **Day Phone: (   )** ____________________

City, State, Zip: ____________________ **Evening Phone: (   )** ____________________

Fax: (   ) ____________________

We want to let people know that you are participating in the Soulard Mardi Gras Cajun Cook-Off; Can we tag you in our social networks? ____________________

Please include your Twitter Handle and Facebook page: ____________________

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<u>APPLICATION GUIDELINES AND GENERAL RULES (specific rules to be provided to selected contestants):</u>

* The number of contestants will be limited to 10. The contestants will be randomly selected from all applications received by the deadline.
* Selected contestants will be notified of acceptance via email on January 18th by email and/or phone.
* Non-selected contestants will be notified by mail.
* A contestant consists of a single individual we/one assistant, or a team of no more than 2 individuals.
* Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.
* An entry may be an appetizer, soup/stew, entrée, dessert or combination, but the entire entry must fit on a single serving dish not to exceed 113 square inches (i.e. 12" round plate). Only one plate per judge will be accepted; any food not served will result in lost points due to non-adherence to recipe submission.
* Food judges will face away from contestants and have no interaction with contestants.
* The contestants will be judged by a celebrity panel of 3 judges.
* Judging will be based on Taste (15 max), Originality (10), Presentation (10), and Degree of Difficulty (10) for a total of 45 points.
* Additional points awarded for decoration of cooking area (5 max) and will be used in case of a tie. Decorations will be judged by a separate panel.
* Contestants will be allowed time to decorate their cooking area and set-up prior to the event. Points will be deducted for late set-up or early breakdown.
* All entries must be prepared on site.
* Each contestant will have a maximum of 2 hours to prepare their dish. Starting times will be staggered based on 10 minute intervals to allow sufficient time for judging. A lottery system will be used (prior to the event) to determine each contestant's start time. Points will be deducted if dish is not ready at designated time.
* Each contestant is responsible for providing their own ingredients, utensils, pots, pans, and whatever else is required to prepare their dish. No BBQ pits or turkey fryers allowed. All contestants must have a fire extinguisher.
* Each contestant is responsible for providing serving materials for each of the judge's panel (serving dish, eating utensils, napkin). Must also include 5 copies of recipe with brief description to be given to the judge's panel. Your name cannot appear anywhere on the recipe.
* All decisions of the judges are final.
* Prize presentation will take place after the final judges tallies are recorded.
* All entries and materials submitted become the property of Mardi Gras Inc and will not be returned or acknowledged. All right, title and interest shall belong to Mardi Gras Inc. Recipes associated with accepted contestants may be used in future Mardi Gras endeavors such as marketing, publications, etc.

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SEND COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

MARDI GRAS INC.
CAJUN COOK-OFF
2200 DOLMAN
ST. LOUIS, MO 63104

For Information see our website at **www.stlmardigras.org** or email us at **Bobby@mardigrasinc.com** or call us at **314.771.5110.**

Revised 1/3/2017