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American Culinary Federation Announces 2018 Regional and National Professional Development Events

Annual events offer educational and networking opportunities for culinary professionals

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLA., August 16, 2017—The American Culinary Federation (ACF), the leading membership organization for chefs and culinary professionals in North America, will host three professional development events in 2018: **ChefConnect: Charlotte**, February 25-27, 2018, Charlotte, North Carolina; **ChefConnect: Newport Beach**, March 18-20, 2018, Newport Beach, California; and **Cook. Craft. Create. ACF National Convention & Show**, July 15-19, 2018, New Orleans, Louisiana.

The regional ChefConnect conferences and national convention will focus on the theme of transformation, working to empower individuals to “Be the Change...” in their professional and personal lives. Robust program schedules will allow attendees to select professional development opportunities tailored to their areas of interest. Each event includes educational seminars, culinary demonstrations, hands-on workshops, industry exhibits, a career fair and networking opportunities. By attending these events, culinary professionals gather actionable insights to bring home to their classrooms, employees and kitchens and earn continuing education hours to acquire and maintain ACF certifications.

The American Culinary Federation is currently seeking culinary influencers and industry leaders to present educational sessions, demonstrations and hands-on workshops at all three events. Topics can range from innovative trends and techniques to skills development, baking and pastry, health and wellness, culinary management, educator development and more. The deadline for proposals is September 30, 2017. For more information, visit www.acfchefs.org/presenter.

Detailed event schedules and registration information is available at www.acfchefs.org/events. Discounted rates are available prior to early registration deadlines.

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About the American Culinary Federation

The American Culinary Federation, Inc. (ACF), established in 1929, is the standard of excellence for chefs in North America. With more than 17,500 members spanning more than 150 chapters nationwide, ACF is the leading culinary association offering educational resources, training, apprenticeship and programmatic accreditation. In addition, ACF operates the most comprehensive certification program for chefs in the United States, with the Certified Executive Chef®, Certified Sous Chef®, Certified Executive Pastry Chef® and Certified Culinary Educator® designations accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies. The American Culinary Federation Education Foundation is home to ACF Culinary Team USA, the official representative for the United States in major international culinary competitions, and to Chef & Child, founded in 1989 to promote proper nutrition in children and to combat childhood obesity. For more information, visit www.acfchefs.org. Find ACF on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).