

Greetings Restaurant Owner/Chef:

Please join us for the 2019 *Taste of Mississippi*, one of the most exciting fundraising parties in our state. We are inviting you to participate in this event, where people from around the south will gather to enjoy selections from the best restaurants in Mississippi!

Please mark your calendar for **April 1, 2019**, to be one of the restaurants showcased at this year's event at **ICE HOUSE** (across from Iron Horse Grill).

Reasons to Participate:

- Last year, the event **raised more than \$115,000**, all of which went directly to Stewpot's 13 ministries – enabling them to provide for the needs of Jackson's homeless, elderly and disabled.
- In 2018, we saw a record turnout, with more than **1,500 people attending**. You can get excellent exposure for your restaurant while helping a great cause.
- You receive promotional opportunities for your restaurant by being listed on our website www.tasteofms.org; our blog www.tasteofmississippi.blogspot.com; and our Facebook group *Stewpot's Taste of Mississippi*.
- *Taste of Mississippi* has been named a **Top 20 Event by the Southeast Tourism Society**. You will be part of an event advertised in more than 1,600 media outlets reaching millions of people.

Listed is just a quick run-down of all the things you need to know about the event and information to make sure that you are familiar with the restaurant guidelines.

- All restaurants are asked to prepare 1,500 (approx. 4-oz) servings.
- Check in begins at 4:30pm at the back entrance of **ICE House located on 201 West South Street in Jackson**. Please be sure to check in immediately to allow yourself enough time to set up food and decor for you table. You will receive your Event wristbands, supplies and an information packet.
- Hours of the event are 6:30pm (**Early Sponsor Admission**) 7:00pm to 10:00pm (Regular Admission). **You must be prepared to stay for the event's duration.**
- You will be allowed four (4) wristbands for your staff. Additional wristbands may be purchased for \$50 each at the event at restaurant check in and you can contact Michelle' Bingham, at Stewpot, to purchase your tickets in advance. **Please note that restaurant personnel without a wristband will be escorted from the premises by security.**
- There will be a trash can next to your table, please encourage everyone to make use of it.
- Judging will begin at 6:30pm. Please look for and greet the judges. They will be wearing badges. Kindly explain to our guests they will need to move to the front of your table's line.

Enclosed you will find an application form and important restaurant information for the event. To secure your spot, please fill out the form and return via mail, **email at manisha@heritagehq.com or fax to Manisha Patel at 601-353-7071**.. You will receive a confirmation message after we receive your registration. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call, Michelle' Bingham, at 601-540-8555 during normal business hours.

Thanks in advance for helping to make *Taste of Mississippi* such a huge success!

Sincerely,
Restaurant Committee Chair
Manisha Patel