



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Windsor Essex Foundation

29th
Annual

BATTLE

OF THE HORS D'OEUVRES

Presenting Sponsor: **Caesars Windsor**

Thursday May 21st, 2015

Caesars Windsor - Augustus Ballroom

Supporting youth mentoring programs in Windsor & Essex County

Pre-event @ 6:30 p.m.

Battle Competition @ 7:00pm

Tickets \$85 each



CAESARS
WINDSOR



**Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Windsor Essex Foundation**

The Ultimate Lounge Party for Food, Drinks & Networking

It's that time of year again! The Big Brothers Big Sisters of Windsor Essex Foundation is hard at work planning the 2015 Battle of the Hors D'oeuvres. The events transformation from a gala into a "lounge party" event has proven to be a great success, and we are looking forward to another great evening full of fun, food, drinks and fundraising.

Battle of the Hors D'oeuvres has become an after business lounge party/networking event. Compared to an indoor food and drink festival, the idea is interaction! This event offers an opportunity for guests to schmooze with some of Windsor's finest food and beverage establishments, while enjoying creative cuisine, drinks, networking, and supporting youth mentoring programs in Windsor and Essex County.

This year's event will be held at **Caesars Windsor in the Augustus Ballroom on May 21st, 2015**. The event will host food & beverage stations in the main event hall for our guests to taste and visit as they meet and mingle around the room.

Of course, we need YOU! Without your loyal support, participation, energy, encouragement and enthusiasm, we would not be able to continue this signature, annual event.

Big Brothers Big Sisters has been providing mentors for children and youth in Windsor and Essex County for over 45 years. Our mission is to support youth, families and adult volunteers in mentoring relationships where youth gain life experience and achieve personal growth. **In 2014, our 5 mentoring programs helped to support over 550 children and youth** in Windsor and Essex County. We believe that changing the course of these young lives can in turn change our community's future. Studies show that relationships formed by volunteer mentors have proven to be instrumental in reducing bullying and other related negative behavior such as lack of interest in school, truancy, low self-esteem and drug and alcohol abuse. Mentoring helps kids learn the importance of helping others, and growing up to be more civic-minded adults.

All funds raised through this annual event will support the five youth mentoring programs at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Windsor Essex. We rely on the generosity of individual donors, corporate sponsors and community partners like you to assist with the vital funding needed to **start something BIG for children in Windsor and Essex County**. Each time we pair a child with a mentor or introduce children to our group programs, we start something incredible – a life-changing relationship built on friendship, trust and empowerment.

Sincerely,

Holly Ing, Chair
Battle of the Hors D'oeuvres Committee

Hayley Morgan, Foundation Executive Director
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Windsor Essex Foundation

Rules, Regulations and Conditions of Participation

Each food station will have two participants designated to the space. Each participant will have two 8 foot tables to work from to complete final prep and serve their **2oz hors d'oeuvre** to guests as they visit the station. **As Big Brothers Big Sisters focuses on youth mentoring, this year we wanted to incorporate a mentoring component to the event. Each participant will be paired with a high school culinary arts student who will assist you during the event.** This will offer them an exciting opportunity to work with a professional chef & their team. Please keep this in mind and have a task for them to work on during the event.

The committee would like to encourage you to go "all out funky, fun and fascinating" with the presentation of your entry! Last year's participants set the bar to an all new high and our guest will be anticipating the same in 2015! The atmosphere will be cool, modern and hip; the hors d'oeuvres should reflect this mood.

Hors D'oeuvre Guidelines

- Each finished hors d'oeuvre is to constitute a **2oz** item, **contain at least one local ingredient** and be able to be served on a small 6" plate.
- High quality disposable plates and forks will be provided for you. If you choose to bring your own disposables, you can. Please let us know so that we can do not order extras.
- In an effort to avoid multiple similar entries, menu item must be forwarded to the agency contact no later than **3 weeks prior to the event**. The committee may request a change to your entry if they feel that there is not enough of a variety for guests.
- Entries will be accepted on a first come first serve basis.
- The Big Brothers Big Sisters of Windsor Essex Foundation is happy to provide you with an **expense receipt for the FULL** fair market value of your hors d'oeuvre ingredients. To receive this benefit, we must receive an invoice with the value as a donation and zero balance following the event by August 31, 2015. (please contact us for further details.)

Event Day Prep

- Participants will have an assigned preparation area within the kitchen at Caesars Windsor. Special requirements are to be indicated prior to the event to ensure accommodation on the day of competition.
- Participants are required to **bring in their own** chafing dishes, utensils, etc. Items should be clearly marked; neither Big Brothers Big Sisters, nor Caesars Windsor will take responsibility for misplaced items
- On-site kitchen prep teams, on the day of competition, are limited to five people per participant. All team members must be in proper kitchen attire during prep (no sandals, shorts, etc).
- Clean-up in the kitchen is required at the end of the event
- Representative(s) of your restaurant will participate in the award ceremony that recognizes all participants and awards the winners of the night.
- All competitors are required to dress professionally and in their restaurant attire indicating the restaurant name during the competition.

Judging

- This year, there will be two categories; **Critics' Choice** which will be voted on in a blind tasting by 3-4 guest judges (TBD) and **People's Choice** which will be voted on by event attendees. There will be two winners for each award: The Critics' Choice Award winners will be for best Restaurant and best Hospitality/Epicurean. People's Choice award winners will be for "all-around" 1st and 2nd place.

Participant Benefits

- 2 Complimentary event tickets
- Pre and post event publicity (website, posters, participant promo cards, eblasts, agency newsletter, facebook, etc)
- Inclusion in the event program (logo and bio)
- An opportunity to distribute promotional item about your business to guests during the event
- Electronic ad rotating on the video screen throughout the event (full colour, full screen, provided by participant)
- Pre and post Media coverage (as applicable)
- Participation in the event's media launch event
- Link and logo on the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Windsor Essex event website
- Participation medal presented at the event that can be displayed in your place of business as a show of support
- A fair market value letter for any charitable gifts made or portions of donated product upon receiving an official statement of the donation by August 31, 2015.

Restaurant Participation Application / Agreement

Business Name: _____

Contact Name: _____ Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

You agree to provide the following no later than two weeks prior to the event:

* A \$25 gift certificate/basket for the event raffle

* A brief bio on your restaurant for the event program

* An electronic ad (8"h x 10"w), in tiff, jpeg or PDF format to be projected on the wall during the event

* Company logo electronically for applicable promotional materials (**March 1st deadline**)

You agree to assist with event promotion in the following ways:

- Display event posters (provided by the agency)
- Distribute event promotional postcards (provided by the agency)
- Send emails to your network and membership database to assist with ticket sales
- Promote event via your social network channels
- Any other method of promotion that you can provide

By signing below I understand that I am bound and hereby agree to abide by the rules, regulations and conditions of the competition. **If you choose to withdraw from the competition 30 days or less prior to event day, there will be a \$500 fee to recoup marketing and advertising costs.**

Signature: _____ Print name: _____

For inclusion in applicable printed and promotional materials, advertising and media conferences, **application must be received by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Windsor Essex by February 27th, 2015.**

Please return completed form Attn: Hayley Morgan

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Windsor Essex Foundation

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