

FOODIE PHILANTHROPY

Flavors provides a unique culinary experience supporting the American Liver Foundation

Flavors is the ultimate culinary event for foodies in Arizona. Founded in 1991 by chef Christopher Gross of Christopher's at Wrigley Mansion, the intimate experience supports the American Liver Foundation, helping to provide lifesaving resources, support, research, and education for the nearly 100 million Americans affected by liver disease.

The dinner is limited to eight tables of 12 guests who have the unique opportunity to have a local top chef prepare a multi-course dinner tableside. Culinary experts will showcase signature dishes that elevate the traditional fundraising banquet to a personal gastronomic adventure.

Chef Gross came up with the idea for the event when he was the chair of the American Institute for Food & Wine. "The pitch was, for most large events, the organization has to pay for the food and the wine. There's also the organizational part where you have to get the dinners out all at once and of course, there's rental, plates, tables, chairs," he says. "My idea had all of those things covered. Each chef or restaurant brings the tables, chairs, plates, silverware, glassware, and cooks, of course, a quality dinner. Guests are attending a large event but having an experience like a restaurant."

While Flavors started in Arizona, the concept has expanded to several locations around the country. This Phoenix event marks its return after a four-year hiatus due to COVID-19.

In addition to Gross, this year's participating chefs include: Mark Tarbell, owner and chef of Tarbell's; David Brito, executive chef of Geordie's at Wrigley Mansion; Matt Carter, owner of Fat Ox, The Mission and Zinc Bistro; Rochell Daniel, owner and chef of Atria; Sara Garratt, executive chef of Michael Mina's Bourbon Steak; Black Luecke, chef de cuisine of Uchi Scottsdale; and James Porter, chef and director of Terra Farm & Manor.

A limited number of individual tickets are available. These include attendance

BY BECKY ANTIOCO



at the predinner reception and an eight-course fine dining experience at Christopher's at Wrigley Mansion.

"I've always been impressed with the philanthropic spirit of the Arizona community," says Lorraine Stiehl, CEO of the American Liver Foundation. "We are grateful for the support we have gotten over the past three decades and welcome the opportunity to raise awareness about liver disease."

One of the goals of the American Liver Foundation is to advocate for early screening for liver disease. "One in three Americans have some form of fatty liver disease," Stiehl says. "The liver is a neglected organ, and we need to break down the stigmas associated with liver disease. Mandatory screening in an annual physical should become the standard of care."

IF YOU GO...

What: Flavors

When: May 22, 6 p.m.

Where: Wrigley Mansion, 2501 E. Telewa Trail, Phoenix

Price: Table for 12, \$25,000; Individual tickets, \$2,500

Information: www.alflavors.org