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## FOOD FIGHT RETURNS FOR FIFTH YEAR THIS SEPTEMBER

*Denver's chefs and bartenders compete to raise awareness for the Scleroderma Foundation*

**DENVER (August 8, 2019)** – Food Fight for Scleroderma, an elite culinary competition, will return for a fifth year to bring together chefs and bartenders from the Denver area to raise funds and awareness for the Scleroderma Foundation's Rocky Mountain Chapter. In this competition, the participants will compete in three categories – savory, sweet, and sip – and create tastes that showcase their creativity and culinary skills.

The annual fundraiser, which features 15 competitors in the VIP and main events, will be held at the BAC Appliance Center in Englewood, Colorado on Wednesday, September 18. The winners of the competition will be determined by event's attendees along with a prestigious panel of judges. This year, the organization was able to secure three of Denver's food and beverage experts:

- Denise Mickelsen, Food Editor at [5280 Magazine](#)
- Heather Carr, Chopped Champion and Executive Chef at [Footers Catering](#)
- Kraig Weaver, Owner and Head Distiller at [The Block Distilling Co.](#)

The VIP Happy Hour was revised this year to provide additional entertainment for guests. Deemed the Battle of the Bar, past sip winners – Derek Coleman from [Saint Ellie](#), Ben Carrington from [Broadway Market](#), and Mason Mears from [The Arvada Tavern](#) – will compete in a live bartending competition using their spirit of choice from The Block Distilling Co. To make it more challenging, an ingredient will be revealed one month prior to the event and must be incorporated into their cocktail. The bartenders will interact with the judges through the evening's host – [Keith Bailey](#) – while guests enjoy passed hors d'oeuvres created by Heather Carr's team at Footers Catering.

Guests at the main event will travel across the globe with tastes from beloved restaurants and bars around the city. As part of the BAC Appliance Center, competitors are given a fully-functioning kitchen station that allows them to interact with the guests. In addition to our VIP competitors, this year's Food Fight will include the following participants:

- Justin Adrian – [Roadhouse Hospitality Group](#) (Savory)
- Tim Ashbaugh – [Colt & Gray](#) and [Saint Ellie](#) (Savory)
- Sean Lauer – [A Notte Denver](#) and [Hop Alley](#) (Savory)
- Saura Madani – [Kevin Taylor Restaurant Group](#) (Sweet)
- Anna Martinez – [Temper Chocolates and Confections](#) (Sweet)
- Thomas Newsted – [Gattara Denver](#) (Savory)
- Mindi Proffitt – [Rita's Law](#) (Sip)
- Cindhura Reddy – [Spuntino](#) (Savory)
- Anna B Rogo – [Pony Up](#) (Sip)
- Terence Rogers – [TBD Foods](#) (Savory)
- Heather Thompson – [The Cruise Room](#) (Sip)

While indulging and imbibing, guests can peruse the silent auction items stationed throughout the event. The evening will commence with entertainment from our auctioneer [Libby Pollack](#) during the live auction along with fun and games.

For more information about Food Fight for Scleroderma, visit [www.foodfightdenver.com](http://www.foodfightdenver.com) or connect with the event on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). The event was made possible, in part, by an unrestricted educational grant from [Actelion](#) and [Boehringer Ingelheim](#).

### **About the Scleroderma Foundation – Rocky Mountain Chapter**

The Scleroderma Foundation Rocky Mountain Chapter is part of the national organization that helps people with scleroderma – and their family and friends – cope with the disease through support groups, physician referrals, and educational information. Formed in 1998, the Scleroderma Foundation is a federally qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to serving the interest of people living with scleroderma. As one of the organizations 20 chapters, the Rocky Mountain Chapter's primary goal is to raise funds and awareness for the foundation's three-fold mission to of support, education, and research. For more information about the Scleroderma Foundation, visit [www.scleroderma.org](http://www.scleroderma.org).

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