



ADULT CULINARY CONTESTS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

DEADLINE

Enter online by
THURS., MARCH 20, 2025
You must enter online prior to dropping off your entry, no exceptions.

DELIVERY

Please see individual contest information for specific delivery instructions.

FEEs

Entry Fees are
\$12.00 for the BBQ contest
\$7.00 for all other contests

AWARDS

- Awards offered in all classes:
 - » 1st Place: Rosette and \$75.00
 - » 2nd Place: Rosette and \$50.00
 - » 3rd Place: Rosette and \$25.00
- Please see BBQ Contest page for BBQ Contest awards.
- These awards are granted at the discretion of the judges.
- Premium checks will be mailed within ten (10) weeks following the close of the LA County Fair.

CONTESTS

Please read both the generic rules on the following page and the individual contest rules, classes, judging criteria and check-in information on that particular contest's page.

- All American Pie Contest
- Almost Homemade Contest
- Baking Contest
- Best BBQ Contest
- Best BBQ Sauce Contest
- Charcuterie Board Contest
- Cheesecake Contest
- Chili Cook-off Contest
- Cookie and Brownie Contest
- Culinary Professional Contest
- Everything Bacon Contest
- Fantastic Fair Food Contest
- Live Chef Championship Contest
- Mocktail Contest
- Seasonal Fruit Contest
- Terrific Taco Contest
- The Perfect Guacamole, Salsa, and Queso Contest

JUDGING

The American System of Judging is used in the Home Arts building/ Culinary Kitchen, unless otherwise stated. The judging process ranks exhibits against one another and gives awards to first place, second place, etc. Judges shall avoid unnecessary fraternization with exhibitors. No person shall be allowed, under any circumstances, to interfere with the judge, or judges, during their adjudications, or with the Fair's staff, or to offer any criticism of any exhibit of another. Violators of this rule shall be excluded immediately from the judging area. **No judging information will be given by telephone, email or mail. Results will be posted on our website after June 30, 2025.** The judges may award first, second and third place, according to merit. If without merit, the judges shall make no award under any circumstances. This rule applies whether there are one or more exhibits in the class. **The judges decisions shall be final.**

QUESTIONS?

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Competition Coordinator
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ADULT DIVISION CULINARY PROFESSIONAL CONTEST

WHAT IS A CULINARY PROFESSIONAL?

An individual who is trained to understand flavors, cooking techniques, create recipes from scratch with fresh ingredients, and have a high level of *paid* responsibility within the industry. Bakers, Chefs, and others who are paid in the industry or selling food for a profit are professionals.

DIVISION: 3085

CLASS:

- 1 – Appetizers
- 2 – Desserts

CHECK-IN

Where: Location will be given in your confirmation packet.

When: Saturday, May 3, 2025

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Judging: 2:00 p.m.

SPECIFIC CONTEST RULES

1. Submit any already prepared appetizer and/or dessert. Submit enough to serve six judges.
2. Any person 18 or older may enter once per class.
3. See entry rules on the following page.

*Please note there are no resources for reheating or keeping the appetizers or desserts hot. They must be brought in fully prepared.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Taste (overall taste).....	40%
Originality/Creativity.....	30%
Appearance/Presentation.....	20%
Ease of preparation.....	10%
Total.....	100%



ADULT DIVISION CULINARY CONTESTS ENTRY RULES

1. **Exhibitors are responsible for reading the competition information, individual rules for each competition, general entry rules and must abide by them.**
2. There are no refunds of entry fee. See competition or contest for individual entry fee.
3. Please print out your online entry receipt for your records.
4. Adult amateurs only (18 years of age and older). If exhibitors are under 18 and would like to enter their entries at the fair, visit www.lacountyfair.com/competitions for information on Youth Culinary Competitions.
5. **Amateur - A person who engages in an event or activity as a pastime rather than a profession.** Instructors, professionals, or those who make a practice of selling their handicraft are not eligible to enter for competition. Teachers, judges, professional cooks, caterers, chefs, cake decorators, or those who commercialize their work are not eligible in the Culinary Contests. **The only exception is the Culinary Professional Contest Division 3085.**
6. Entries are accepted from INDIVIDUALS ONLY and must be the work of the exhibitor in whose name they were entered.
7. **Limit of one entry per class** (to enter more in one class would be, in effect, competing against oneself).
8. Items will be judged in Division and Class entered by exhibitors. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to correctly classify their items. Only items listed and described on entry form will be accepted for judging.
9. Judges and/or Fair staff may reassign entries to a more appropriate division and/or class.
10. **All entrants will receive a confirmation packet in the first week of May. Exhibitors will receive a complimentary parking pass and ticket for use on the day of the contest(s). If you are unable to participate this year, please return your parking pass and ticket so that you will be eligible to enter the Culinary Contest again next year.**
11. Each recipe must be homemade (no mixes, unless otherwise specified), named, original, unpublished, and the sole property of entrant.
12. Recipes must be made using ingredients that are readily available at your local stores.

(continued on next page)



ADULT DIVISION CULINARY CONTESTS ENTRY RULES

13. On the day of the contest, entries **must be** submitted with a typed or computer printed **measured ingredients list** on an 8 ½ x 11" sheet of paper with the entrant's name, division, and class number. **Any entry that arrives without the required measured ingredients list and information will NOT be accepted for judging. Do not mail your measured ingredients list.**
14. All measured ingredients lists submitted will become the property of the Los Angeles County Fair Association and may be published, reproduced, developed, and sold by the Los Angeles County Fair Association. When appropriate, credit will be given to the originator of the measured ingredients list.
15. The LA County Fair reserves the right to reject anything that is entered into a contest at the Fair that may be objectionable, unsuitable, requires more space than can be given, or is in conflict with exhibit requirements.
16. No person shall sign the entry form as an agent at the LA County Fair in any department if they are a manager, director, association member, department head, or paid employee.
17. The LA County Fair employees are not eligible to compete.
18. The LA County Fair is not responsible for lost, stolen, illegible, misdirected or late entries. By entering the contest, the exhibitor accepts and agrees to these requirements and the decisions of the judges, which shall be final.
19. The Los Angeles County Fair Association reserves the right to amend and add to these rules and empowers the Executive Committee with the final and absolute right to interpret all rules and regulations and arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions and differences in regard thereto.
20. The LA County Fair pays premiums ONLY in those classes specifically listed. **Premium checks will be mailed within ten (10) weeks following the close of the LA County Fair.** The LA County Fair is not responsible for redemption of premiums.
21. Any exhibitor who wins over \$600.00 dollars or more in premiums or prizes must complete a W-9 form before checks are distributed in compliance with IRS regulations. A 1099 MISC will be issued to those exhibitors.