

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS TO AWARD MAYOR'S CHAMPION OF FOOD JUSTICE, CHEF OF THE YEAR AND MORE AT ANNUAL LUNCHEON

September 25, 2014. Houston, Texas. On November 5, Recipe for Success Foundation will recognize energetic agents of change at the annual **Blue Plate Special Café Awards Lunch**. Honorary Chairs, **Karen & Roland Garcia**, along with Chair **Allison Esenkova**, will host the event at River Oaks Country Club, where inspired Houstonians will gather to celebrate the accomplishments of award winners and Recipe for Success Foundation's progress in the fight against childhood obesity.

Will Isbell, gardener and artist, will receive the fourth annual **Mayor's Award: Champion of Food Justice**, in recognition of his contributions to promote food gardening in communities throughout Houston, to educate children and families with tactics to make growing their own food fun and for his countless hours volunteering in the Foundation's classrooms and gardens.

Mayor Annise Parker will be on hand to personally present her annual award, which she designed with Recipe for Success Foundation to encourage effective solutions for our City's food disparities by recognizing a Houstonian who has made significant contributions.

Barbara McKnight, chef-owner of CULINAIRE: Inspired Cuisine & Events, is the Blue Plate Special Chef of the Year, awarded to distinguish a member of the Foundation's Chefs Advisory Board who is deeply engaged in efforts to change the way children eat. McKnight has been a classroom volunteer with the organization since 2007 and regularly contributes her time and talent to RFS special events.

H-E-B President, Scott McClelland, will present the Golden Whisk Award to **Sylvia Healy** as Teacher of the Year and the Foundation will also celebrate **Chantal Duvall** and **Dragana Harris** as Volunteers of the Year. These awards honor those who, as deeply engaged educators and active volunteers, are helping the Foundation change the eating habits for thousands of Houstonians.

Mistress of Ceremonies, **Sharron Melton**, of ABC-13 will set the tone for the spirited luncheon program. Prior to the luncheon, guests are invited to stock up on holiday gifts from local artisan vendors at the Harvest Market, from which a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Foundation. The S2P Book Corner will feature signed books as well as personal appearances by **Allison Cook**, **Erin Hicks**, and other local authors.

Tickets for the event begin at \$150. More information at 713-520-0443 or recipe4success.org.

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For details, interviews and photos, contact Jenna White: 713.520.0443 or jenna@recipe4success.org.

About Recipe for Success Foundation

Since 2005 Recipe for Success Foundation has worked to combat childhood obesity by changing the way our children understand, appreciate and eat their food, and by educating and mobilizing the community to provide healthier diets for children. Its programs have empowered more than 25,000 youth with the knowledge and skills to make a lifetime of healthy eating decisions. Through its efforts—including the nationally offered Seed-to-Plate Nutrition Education™, farmers marKIDS™ curriculum, *Eat It! Food Adventures* children's cookbooks, the VegOut! 30-Ways-in-30-Days Challenge and Hope Farms™, the Foundation aims to make healthy food appealing and available to everyone. The Foundation works to establish healthy eating as the norm and to create a culture in which nutritious food is shared, appreciated, and celebrated. Learn more at recipe4success.org.