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SELECT REGISTRY: DISTINGUISHED INNS OF NORTH AMERICA ANNOUNCES WINNERS IN NATIONAL CULINARY COMPETITION

Best Bed and Breakfasts from North America Competed for Title in the “Inn-Credible Breakfast Cook-Off”

NEW YORK (November 11, 2008) — **Select Registry: Distinguished Inns of North America** (www.selectregistry.com) has announced the winners in the celebrated culinary competition, “**The Inn-Credible Breakfast Cook-Off**,” designed to recognize the best “inn” breakfast in North America. **Casa Laguna Inn and Spa** of Laguna Beach, CA, won the gold medal in the “Professional Chef Category” with their dish “Dungeness Crab Benedict with Choron Sauce, Fried Shallots & Curry Oil.” **Inn at Riverbend** of Pearisburg, VA, received the gold in the “Innkeeper Category” with their dish, “Breakfast Sushi.”

Select Registry, an association representing more than 400 of the finest country inns, B&Bs and unique small hotels across the country, embodies the very best the travel industry has to offer. The feted competition, now in its second year, celebrates and recognizes the best culinary talent and creativity of these exceptional inns and boutique hotels.

The finalist teams, which consisted of professional chefs and innkeepers from the best bed and breakfasts and inns in North America, competed for the gold, silver and bronze medals during a **live culinary competition**, at Select Registry’s Annual Conference on **November 10, 2008**, at the Williamsburg Lodge in historic Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia.

Competition entries were judged by an esteemed judging panel with superlative culinary backgrounds on the following criteria: *Creativity, Presentation, Overall Appeal and Taste*. Chefs and innkeepers participated in the competition, creating an original breakfast “main dish.” Though each recipe was unique, the one ingredient in common was eggs.

Winners of the Professional Chef Category:

Gold:

Casa Laguna Inn and Spa of Laguna Beach, California: “Dungeness Crab Benedict with Choron Sauce, Fried Shallots & Curry Oil,” submitted by Cale Falk.

Silver:

L’Auberge Provencale of White Post, Virginia: “Provencale Eggs Benedict with Caramelized Onion Tartlet, Merques Sausage, Vegetable Stew and a Garden Sorrel Hollandaise,” submitted by Alain Borel and Scott Myers.

Bronze:

1906 Pine Crest Inn and Restaurant of Tryon, North Carolina: “North Carolina Granny Smith Apple & Sweet Vidalia Onion Quiche,” submitted by April Wilson and Amanda Greene.

Winners of the Innkeeper Category:

Gold:

Inn at Riverbend of Pearisburg, Virginia: “Breakfast Sushi,” submitted by Linda Hayes and Eric Hanson.

Silver:

Swann House of Washington, D.C.: “Swann House Sunday Morning Swans,” submitted by Patrick Richardson & Rick Verkler.

Bronze:

“The finalist teams all created true representations of the best “inn” breakfast,” said Keith Kehlbeck, executive director of Select Registry. “Each of the contestants deserves congratulations on their fantastic dishes, which reflect on the high standards of quality and creativity exemplified by all Select Registry member inns.”

Prizes:

The first-place winners received: Professional Chef: An all-expense paid trip with **Oneida Global Foodservice** to Chicago for the National Restaurant Association’s Annual Show in Chicago May 16-19, 2009. The winning chef will assist Oneida representatives with “Plate-Scaping” - a method that uses the plate as a canvas for an artistic food presentation. Innkeeper: An all-expense paid trip to the exquisite five-star **Coeur d’Alene Resort** for the opportunity to cook with Executive chef, Rodney Jessick, recognized by the ACF Chef’s de Cuisines of the Inland Northwest as “Chef of the Year.”

Additional prizes were generously donated by sponsors including, **Nueske’s Applewood Smoked Meats, Le Creuset, Eight O’Clock Coffee, Maryland China, DNJ Specialties, The Coeur d’Alene Resort** and **Harper Collins** (a collection of Danny Meyer books).

Select Registry’s partners in this culinary competition included Egglan’s Best, the “Official Egg” of the competition, Oneida Global Foodservice, Bolthouse Farms and Nueske’s Applewood Smoked Meats, whose products complimented each of the finalists’ dishes.

Since the competition’s successful 2007 debut, members have submitted more than 150 original recipes. Select Registry plans to create a special cookbook compiled from the outstanding recipes that are featured every day in Select Registry properties all over North America.

Video highlights available at www.selectregistry.com/cook-off to view the 2007 “Inn-Credible Breakfast Cook-Off.”

About Select Registry

Select Registry: Distinguished Inns of North America represents more than 400 of the finest country inns, B&Bs, and unique small hotels from California to Nova Scotia—the very best the travel industry has to offer. Select Registry carries out a quality assurance inspection for each of its inns involving independent inspectors, with years of experience in the hospitality industry. The inspectors arrive unidentified, spend the night, and evaluate the inn on a detailed point system, which translates into a pass/fail grade for the inn. Inns applying for membership are inspected, as are existing members on a periodic schedule. No other online directory or organization of innkeepers has a comparable inspection program, establishing Select Registry as the benchmark for quality. This year, more than 400,000 new Select Registry guidebooks will be printed and distributed, making it the largest such referral program and publication of its kind in the travel industry.

For further details on Select Registry, please visit www.selectregistry.com.

Competition Partners:

Egglan’s Best: <http://www.egglandsbest.com>

Bolthouse Farms: <http://www.bolthouse.com>

Oneida Global Foodservice: <http://foodservice.oneida.com/>

Nueske’s Applewood Smoked Meats: <http://www.nueskes.com/about>

The Eight O’Clock Coffee Company: <http://www.eightoclock.com/>

NOTE TO EDITORS: Downloadable JPEG Photos and Recipes Available upon Request.

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