



TOP LATINO LIDERES AWARDS

Contestant RULES & Instructions

EMPANADA SMACKDOWN!

TOP Chef: Latino Dish Contest: Saturday, March 1st, 2025
@ Centennial Park: 2000 W. First Street, Ft. Myers, Florida

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS. Vendor Check-in:
(SHOW UP ONLY DURING YOUR SCHEDULED TIME)

- Food Vendors: 8:00 – 9:00 AM
- Drink & Cultural Vendors: 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM
- Business Vendors: 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM
- Contestant ONLY: 12:30 PM – 3:00 PM – Prep area

All Vendors must be set up by: 11:30 AM. The festival will be open to the public: 12:00 PM. The festival will end at 5:00 PM. (Vendors are not allowed to leave until 6:00 PM)

The registration area will be marked.

CONTESTANTS are NOT ALLOWED in the judging / VIP area until after 4PM.

Our Rep will PICK UP YOUR SAMPLES from your BOOTH between the following times: _____

TOP Latino Chef Contest Entries: 12:20 PM- 1:40 PM



The exact pick-up time will be set up that morning with your team.

Pick YOUR Contest Categories Include:

PLEASE SUBMIT THE MAIN CONTEST: EMPANADA SMACKDOWN / CONTEST: 80 BITE SIZED ENTRIES

YOUR 2nd ENTRY DISH and OTHER ENTRIES ACCEPTED:

Best Rice Dish/Arroz: Chef Choice of Arroz con Pollo, Paella, Arroz con Gandules, Morro, or Other Rice Dish

Best Appetizer/Tapas: To Include Chef Choice of Empanadas, Pastelillos, Burekas, Arepas, Alcapurria, Cuban Sandwich, other sandwich and or Tamales or other.

Dessert: Chef choice of Latin Dessert; Flan, Tres Leches, Guava Pastry or other.

Scores are based on TASTE and PRESENTATION: Each Contest entry will be judged by the following criteria: Appearance, Presentation, Taste, Texture and Authenticity.

You need to provide 80 BITE SIZE Samples (see above for pic sample) for each category that you are competing in. There must no identifying signage on submitted samples, plates, or napkins.

Event Contacts: Jolie; Jolie@HRFCC.org or TEXT: (813) 407-6866 or Victor at Vpadilla@HRFCC.org
TEXT: (813) 407-7191

When posting pictures via social media please use the following Hashtags:

#EMPANADA #TasteofLatino #BROOKSYMCA #Paella #Empanadas #iLOVECubanSandwiches

GOOD LUCK: WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THE 2025 Taste of Latino! FESTIVAL!