

Adrienne Arsht Center

FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
ADRIENNE ARSHT CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS OF
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
SPICES UP FALL 2008 WITH A NEW
CELEBRITY CHEF SERIES
FEATURING WORLD-RENOWNED CULINARY STARS
DISHING ON STAGE
IN THE CENTER'S JOHN S. AND JAMES L. KNIGHT CONCERT HALL

ANTHONY BOURDAIN, NOVEMBER 14
ALTON BROWN, DECEMBER 13

8 PM

John S. and James L. Knight Concert Hall
Tickets \$25- \$150

Miami, FL October 27, 2008 – Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County, in partnership with Johnson & Wales University, spices up the Center's exciting fall offerings with its scrumptious new **CELEBRITY CHEF SERIES**. Beginning **November 14** with the Travel Channel's culinary adventurer **Anthony Bourdain**, Miami audiences will have the opportunity to spend an evening with their favorite gastronomic guru in the Center's magnificent John S. and James L. Knight Concert Hall. **Each engagement includes an intimate interview about the celebrity chef's personal culinary journey hosted by one of Miami's own top chefs, a mouth-watering live cooking demonstration, and a question-and-answer session with the audience.**

In addition, audience members who purchase a VIP ticket have the opportunity to personally meet the chef, enjoy a tasting of that night's featured meal, and choose from the best seats in the theater.

"Miami is a growing foodie town. The proliferation of big name restaurants and diversity are proof positive that Miami is hungry for opportunities to participate in unique culinary

experiences,” said Scott Shiller, interim executive vice-president of the Adrienne Arsht Center. “Increased cooking programs on networks like the Food Network and Travel Channel have broadened the spectrum of people interested in how food is prepared. Celebrity chefs have cult status with a huge fan following. The Adrienne Arsht Center’s Celebrity Chef Series will offer Miami audiences an opportunity see the stars they love up close and enjoy the camaraderie of a live event with other food enthusiasts in town.”

Following **Anthony Bourdain’s** premiere at the Adrienne Arsht Center on November 14, Food Network’s resident food historian and award-winning host **Alton Brown** serves up his unique blend of pop culture and common cooking sense on December 13.

In addition, each engagement will feature one of Miami’s own culinary masterminds conducting the on-stage interview with that evening’s featured Celebrity Chef. Interviewing Bourdain will be Amir Ben-Zion, the gastronomic guru behind some of Miami’s most popular eateries and hotspots - Townhouse Hotel, Bond St Sushi Lounge, Miss Yip Chinese Café and Buck15. James Beard Award winner Michelle Bernstein, owner of Michy’s restaurant in Miami’s Upper East Side, will trace Alton Brown’s culinary career live on stage. Bernstein is also known for winning her challenge on The Food Network’s Iron Chef America, which is hosted by Alton Brown.

The Adrienne Arsht Center is pleased to partner with Johnson & Wales University, a recognized leader in career education. JWU students will have the opportunity to work closely with the Celebrity Chefs throughout the series, prepare the chef’s featured dish for VIP party guests and participate in a private question-and-answer session with each star. JWU prepares students for personal and professional success by integrating rigorous academics and professional skills, community leadership opportunities and a unique career education model. The College of Culinary Arts, with 800 culinary arts students at the North Miami Campus, is a world class culinary institution that offers two degree programs - baking & pastry arts and culinary arts.

Tickets

Tickets for the Celebrity Chef Series are \$25 - \$150 and are available through the Adrienne Arsht Center box office at (305) 949-6722 or online at www.arshtcenter.org.

The \$150 VIP ticket includes an opportunity to meet the chef, a tasting of that night’s featured meal and the best seats in the theater.

Anthony Bourdain, November 14

Host of “No Reservations” on the Travel Channel and a frequent guest judge on Bravo’s “Top Chef”, **Anthony Bourdain** is equally well-known for eating exotic, daring dishes and writing best-selling memoirs and essays. A 28-year veteran of professional kitchens, working every job from dishwasher to Head Chef, Bourdain offers his uninhibited and insightful commentary on his shows and in his books, including *Kitchen Confidential*, which propelled him to stardom. A graduate of the Culinary Institute of America, Bourdain is also the founder of the classic Park Avenue South bistro Les Halles in New York City.

Alton Brown, December 13

Hailed as “Best Food Guru” by *Atlanta Magazine* and “Cooking Teacher of the Year” by *Bon Appetit Magazine*, **Alton Brown** takes the spotlight to share his knowledge, humor and enthusiasm that has made him popular with fans all over the world. Brown is the creator and host of the Food Network’s “Good Eats” and “Feasting on Asphalt,” the main commentator on “Iron Chef America” and is an author of several cooking how-to-books, including the *New York Times* bestseller *I’m Just Here for the Food* and *Alton Brown’s Gear for Your Kitchen*.

Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County is made possible by the public support of the Miami-Dade County Mayor and the Board of County Commissioners, the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, and the Miami-Dade County Tourist Development Council. Education & Outreach is funded in part by The Children’s Trust. The Adrienne Arsht Center also receives generous support from private and corporate contributions to the Performing Arts Center Foundation of Greater Miami through its Membership Program; City of Miami Omni Community Redevelopment Agency; Dade Community Foundation; The MAP-Fund, a program of Creative Capital, supported by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation; The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs; the Florida Arts Council; the National Endowment for the Arts; and The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

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Editor’s Note:

Related high-resolution photos are available at www.arshtcenter.org/press and <http://www.mediafire.com/arshtcenterphotos>.

About Adrienne Arsht Center for Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County

Adrienne Arsht Center for Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County is Miami-Dade County’s largest ever public/private-sector partnership, comprised of an \$150 million private capital campaign conducted by the Performing Arts Center Foundation and public funding drawn primarily from the County’s Convention Development Tax revenues, as well as the City of Miami Omni Redevelopment District Community Redevelopment Agency. Greatly enhancing the artistic and educational opportunities in South Florida, the Adrienne Arsht Center will have significant and long-term economic benefits for the city and the region.

The Adrienne Arsht Center, designed by world-renowned architect Cesar Pelli of Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects, includes the 2,400-seat Sanford and Dolores Ziff Ballet Opera House, the 2,200-seat Knight Concert Hall, a 200-seat black box Carnival Studio Theater, the Peacock Education Center, a restored Art Deco Tower, and the Parker and Vann Thomson Plaza for the Arts, which unites the Center buildings across Biscayne Boulevard, providing a magnificent setting for outdoor entertainment and informal gatherings. The key members of the design team include theater planning and design consultant Joshua Dachs of Fisher Dachs Associates, Inc. and acoustician Russell Johnson of ARTEC, Inc., both of whom worked on the project since its inception.

The Adrienne Arsht Center is a Miami venue not only for its four resident companies (Concert Association of Florida, Florida Grand Opera, Miami City Ballet, and New World Symphony), but also for many smaller South Florida arts organizations that will perform in its theaters on a regular basis, as well as for the finest popular and classical performances from around the world. With state-of-the-art performance facilities in Miami for the first time, the Adrienne Arsht Center offers South Florida audiences the best and most diverse theater, music, and dance—with a dedication to entertain, challenge, and educate all segments of the community. For more information, visit www.arshtcenter.org.