



'Top Chef' Eve Aronoff judge at chili cook-off to fight hunger

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ANN ARBOR, MI - Ten home cooks will enter their best bowl of chili in a cook-off next Saturday to raise funds to help fight hunger in Washtenaw County.

Frita Batidos owner Eve Aronoff from season six of Top Chef joins a panel of three judges to determine the best bowl of chili from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 29 at People's Food Co-op, 216 N. 4th Ave.

The entry list of cooks is full, but the event is open to the public and free to attend.

"We had our 10 spots fill up weeks before the deadline, so it should be a good turnout," People's Food Co-op General Manager Angie Voiles said. "There will be live music and tons of promotions going on, as well as a chance for people to learn more about what we do here at People's Food and benefits of being part of a co-op."

The winner of the chili cook-off will receive a \$100 People's Food gift card, while second place gets a \$50 gift card. Voiles said there is also a "People's Choice" award where spectators can taste and vote for their favorite chili.

Live music will play at Sculpture Plaza outside People's Food, along with aerial activities with Aviary.

Non-perishable food also will be collected for Food Gatherers, a food rescue program serving 170 non-profit agencies in providing direct food assistance to low-income adults, seniors and children in Washtenaw County.

Those wishing to donate can bring a food item to People's Food Co-op or donate money at the registers.

"We love working with Food Gatherers because their passion for feeding those in need in our community is something near and dear to our hearts and values," Voiles said. "This is going to be a great event for people to come together and celebrate food while supporting a charitable cause."

People's Food Co-op is also promoting its member appreciation day giveaways, in-store samples and discounts throughout the weekend.

To learn more about becoming a People's Food Co-op member, ask for information from a cashier at the store or visit the People's Food Co-op website.