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The Gravy Cup Announces List of Professional and Celebrity Judges

The Gravy Cup, the world's largest biscuit gravy competition, announced an A-list of local celebrity judges this week.

Louisville, KY – On February 24th, Louisville will host The 6th Annual Gravy Cup. Drawing more than 30 chefs and over 1000 community members, The Gravy Cup is the world's largest biscuit gravy competition. Every year, a panel of celebrity and professional judges select the winning gravy in each of three categories: Traditional, Non-Traditional, and Vegetarian. There is also an Audience Choice Award.

The Gravy Cup 2018 panel of judges includes:

- **Ashlee Clark Thompson:** Author, food blogger, Senior Associate Editor for CNET, and host of The Moth StorySlam in Louisville, Kentucky.
- **Ralph “Big Rome” Kimbrough:** Long-time youth counselor at Boys & Girls Haven and 2016 semi-finalist on America's Got Talent as a member of Louisville-based music group, Linkin' Bridge.
- **Josh Moore:** Renowned Executive Chef and Executive Pastry Chef at Volare Italian Restaurant.
- **Reed Johnson:** Local chef, market Associate for Sysco Corporation, and the only chef to have won first place in each of The Gravy Cup's three adjudicated award categories.
- **Ryan Rogers:** Award-winning local chef and owner of Feast BBQ, Royals Hot Chicken, and bar Vetti.

“Gravy holds a special place in my heart, as it does for so many Americans that have grown up in or have ventured into the South,” says judge, Ryan Rogers. “When the opportunity presented itself to not only indulge myself in nostalgia, but also benefit an organization as deserving as Boys & Girls Haven I knew that I would be remiss to pass on the event.”

The proceeds from The Gravy Cup benefit tweens and teens in foster care at Boys & Girls Haven, a full service foster care agency. In January 2018, Boys & Girls Haven lost the use of their on-campus commercial kitchen and main dining hall due to water and electrical damage resulting from busted pipes. Says Chief Development Officer, Steve Luckett, “Despite the extensive damage to our campus early this year, we were able to move forward due to the generosity of our community.”

“Still, the Gravy Cup could not come at a better time,” continues Luckett. “We are tasked with raising over \$1 million from our community each year in order to continue providing excellent service to this vulnerable population. Any unexpected damage to our facilities significantly impacts our immediate budget and fundraising efforts.”

Luckett also spoke to the likelihood of a capital campaign to completely renovate the 68-year-old Boys & Girls Haven campus on Goldsmith Lane. The campaign is expected to launch later in 2018.

[Boys & Girls Haven](#) is a full-service foster care program located in Louisville, Kentucky. Since 1948, the 501c3 nonprofit has transformed the lives of more than 6,000 abandoned, abused and neglected children by providing stability, education, and life skills that will lead to success in adulthood. We employ a multifaceted, therapeutic approach including residential and in-home foster care, independent living programs, career and life skills training, preventative community-based services, and a variety of other programs and services.

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