



BHTA names 2018 Chef, Bartender of the Year

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Some of the competitors in the BHTA's 2018 Barbados Culinary Competition as they present their dishes to the judges.

Barbados has a new Chef of the Year, Junior Chef of the Year, Pastry Chef of the Year and Bartender of the Year.

They are Damian Leach, Shemar Bishop, Rodney Corbin and Shane McClean, who took the respective titles in the just concluded Barbados Hotel and Tourism Association's (BHTA) 2018 Barbados Culinary Competition.

Leach, who retained his 2016 title, and Bishop are from Cocktail Kitchen while Corbin is from Sea Breeze Hotel and McClean from Buzo Osteria Italiana.

The winners and runners-up in each category now have the opportunity to join the award-winning Barbados Culinary Team and be trained to represent Barbados at local and international culinary and bartender competitions, exhibitions and other food and beverage appearances. That training will be under the guidance of some of the most celebrated chefs and bartender maestros.

BHTA's CEO, Rudy Grant said,

“The Taste of the Caribbean event is a wonderful experience which will allow our team members the opportunity to display their mastery and creativity to food and beverage aficionados and professionals from across the globe. Moreover, individual participants will be able to compete for the honour of Caribbean Chef of the Year, Pastry Chef of the Year and Bartender of the Year, each of which has been won by members of previous teams.”

The first competition appearance by the Team will be at the 2018 Taste of the Caribbean Culinary Competition, hosted by the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA) from June 22 to 26, 2018 at the Hyatt Regency in Miami, Florida.



The full results of the Barbados Culinary Competition 2018 are as follows:

BARBADOS CULINARY CHEF OF THE YEAR (2018)

Winner Damian Leach Cocktail Kitchen

2nd Nicholas Ifill Seabreeze Beach Hotel

3rd Willis Griffith Nino's by the Sea

4th Derio Boyce Ocean Two Hotel

BARBADOS JUNIOR CHEF OF THE YEAR

Winner Shamar Bishop Cocktail Kitchen

2nd Kiara Riley Sea Breeze Beach Hotel

BARBADOS PASTRY CHEF OF THE YEAR

Winner Rodney Corbin Sea Breeze Beach Hotel

2nd Jamal Whittaker Coral Reef Club

3rd Ezra Beckles Turtle Beach Resort

4th Shanese Phoenix Crystal Cove Hotel

BARBADOS BARTENDER OF THE YEAR

Winner Shane McClean Buzo Ostroma Italiana

2nd Adrian Bryan Mount Gay Distilleries

3rd Alex Chandler Bar by Infusion