



November 28, 2016



This spring, Crescent City locals and visitors will be able to indulge in an evening filled with tacos and tequilas when the inaugural **Top Taco** festival lands in **Riverwalk's Spanish Plaza** on **Thursday, March 23, 2017**. A collaborative effort by the team behind the highly successful **Top Taco Denver** and local restaurateur **Shane Finkelstein**, **Top Taco NOLA** will feature tantalizing tacos from forty of the city's best restaurants, along with handcrafted tequila cocktails and top notch live entertainment. A portion of the proceeds will benefit **One Heart NOLA**, a charitable organization that raises funds and awareness for New Orleans' foster children.

Sponsored by **Southern Eagle Beverage**, **Hola Nola** tortillas and **Performance Food Group**, the evening will feature **forty (40)** restaurants that will compete for People's Choice and Judge awards in four categories: *Top Creative Taco*, *Top Traditional Taco*, *Top Creative Cocktail* and *Top Margarita*.

An additional ten (10) restaurants will be showcased in the private **VIP Lounge**, aboard the **Paddlewheeler Creole Queen**, where guests can enjoy one-of-a-kind culinary creations, exclusive VIP tequila tastings, live music by **Mariachi Jalisco US** and **Margie Perez's** Latin band **Muevelo**.

Confirmed restaurants to date include: **Mizado**, **Jacques Imo's**, **Rum House**, **Araña**, **Velvet Cactus**, **Tacos and Beer**, **Del Fuego**, **Patois**, **Canal St. Bistro**, **Chiba**, **Cowbell**, **Vincent's**, **Nacho Mama's**, **La Casita**, **Felipe's**, **Blue Oak BBQ** and **Horn's**. Restaurants will be paired with tequilas and spirits including **Sauza Hornitos**, **Patron**, **Tres Generaciones**, **Casa Noble**, **El Tesoro**, and **Cointreau** to create festive and flavorful cocktails

Live entertainment will include performances by NOLA's famed Latin ensemble **Los Poboycitos** and Afro-Cuban jazz and groove band **Otra**.