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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **START YOUR ENGINES: SECOND ANNUAL PHILADELPHIA VENDY AWARDS RETURN FOR BATTLE OF TOP STREET CHEF TITLE**

*Newly-launched website now open for nominations and ticket sales*

**Philadelphia, PA** – June 28, 2012 – Coinciding with the vast expansion of the Philadelphia food truck scene, some of the most talented sidewalk culinary impresarios will battle **Saturday, July 28, 2012** for the best-of title at the second annual Philadelphia Vendy Awards. The event takes place at **The Lot @ 39<sup>th</sup> and Market**, beginning at **3:00 through 7:00 p.m.**, when the winner's trophy is awarded.

Loyal Philly street vendor patrons can nominate their choice for best sidewalk chef online at <http://streetvendor.org/philly2012/nominations/>. Tickets for the Philadelphia Vendys can be purchased at <http://phillyvendys2012.eventbrite.com>. Tickets cost \$55 in advance and \$60 the Olive oil as needed day of event, which is all-you-can-eat and includes beer.

“With its flourishing food truck scene and diverse culinary talent pool, Philadelphia is an ideal city to host our popular competition,” said Helena Tubis, Managing Director of the event. “We’re excited to see who makes the cut this year for bragging rights as the city’s top street chef.”

The Vendy Awards are an annual event organized by [The Street Vendor Project at the Urban Justice Center](#), a membership-based organization of more than 1,300 vendors. SVP's famed Vendy Awards have determined New York City's top street chef for eight years, becoming one of the most beloved and widely anticipated food events in New York, Los Angeles, and Philadelphia. In Philadelphia, the Vendy Awards will serve as a fundraiser for The Food Trust, a Philadelphia-based nonprofit organization that strives to make healthy food available to all.

“We’re thrilled to continue our celebration of street cuisine and vendors in Philadelphia,” said Sean Basinski, Director of the Street Vendor Project at the Urban Justice Center. “From authentic Caribbean food to unusual cupcakes, it’s a pleasure to showcase Philadelphia’s culinary spirit at the Vendy Awards.”

Members of the press should email <http://www.food-shelter.com/VENDY/> to request a press pass. Follow the Vendy Awards on Twitter for the latest news and announcements [@vendysphilly](#) and like them on Facebook at [Vendy Awards](#).

### **ABOUT THE STREET VENDOR PROJECT AT THE URBAN JUSTICE CENTER**

The Vendy Awards are an annual benefit event for the non-profit The Street Vendor Project at the Urban Justice Center. The Street Vendor Project is a membership-based project with more than 1,300 active vendor members who are working together to create a vendors’ movement for permanent change. The Street Vendor Project is part of the [Urban Justice Center](#), a non-profit organization that provides legal representation and advocacy to various marginalized groups of New Yorkers. To join their list of supporters, please click [here](#).

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