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### **29<sup>th</sup> Annual Comcast Bite of Seattle Serves Up Food, Sunshine and Summer Fun**

With a renewed focus on food and family fun, the 29<sup>th</sup> annual Comcast Bite of Seattle satisfied stomachs and amused audiences over the course of the three-day festival. Over 425,000 people traveled to Seattle Center to enjoy the diverse cuisine, top-notch musical and comedic entertainment, and variety of other exciting events.

Friday morning, a group of enthusiastic food experts roamed Seattle Center, sampling dishes from the over 50 restaurant booths, seeking out the best bites. Catfish Corner came out on top with the first place Best Entrée award for their southern catfish and hushpuppies, Half Moon Bay Bar and Grill's crab cakes and tuna bombs earned them the second place award for Best Entrée and coming in third for Best Entrée was Southern Kitchen with their gumbo. Maximus Minimus' Pulled Pork Sandwich was deemed the Best BBQ, though Famous Dave's earned an honorable mention in this category. Newcomers Henry's Bento earned Best Right Bite for their Taiwan satay rice noodles while judges agreed that the organic chocolate mousse from Thrive was the Bite's Best Green Bite, which was a new category this year. Maltby Café received the Best Dessert reward for their strawberry and marionberry shortcake.

In the spirit of crazed consumption, more than 4,000 festival-goers packed the Fisher Green to watch as three of the top 10 Major League Eaters from around the world competed in the Jimmy John's Freaky Fast Sandwich Maker's contest. Among the famous MLE faces were number one-ranked Joey "Jaws" Chestnut, Bib Sheet ranked seventh in the world and Erik The Red Denmark, ranked eighth.

The Alley hosted by Tom Douglas, did not disappoint the 6,400 people who sampled from eighteen of Seattle's finest restaurants who came together to support Food Lifeline. The Beringer Wine Tasting and Great Steak Challenge also benefited Food Lifeline, raising an additional \$2,000 for the organization.

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The first annual Comcast Bite of Seattle Construction Challenge also supported Food Lifeline. Five architectural and engineering firms created stunning visual displays using nothing but canned foods. HDR Engineering and Architecture's display won the People's Choice award, while AECOM's display won the Juror's Favorite and Chef's choice awards. Food Lifeline collected 11,049 pounds of food from the structures, which will provide nearly 8,500 meals for hungry families from the event. The contest also raised over \$550 in donations for Food Lifeline.

Hope Heart Institute was the beneficiary of the Mondavi Wine Tasting event at the Bite. An estimated \$9,000 was raised to support the organization's mission of making medical advances and educational curricula that make heart disease – America's number one cause of death – more treatable, beatable and preventable.

A new tasting attraction called Green bites featured restaurants that are committed to creating delicious, organic dishes in a manner that supports sustainability. Visitors to these restaurants sampled delicious dishes that promoted a healthy lifestyle and while encouraging festival-goers to consider the impact of their decisions on the global environmental concerns. These booths were solar powered as well, in keeping with the venue's theme. Event producers look forward to expanding this concept in 2011.

One of the most prestigious Bite events, *The Bite Cooks!* presented by Comcast and Groupon, took center stage at their new location inside Fisher Pavilion this year. The increased attendance and audience interaction proved that Seattleites love their chefs and the culinary arts. Host Thierry Rautureau – The Chef in the Hat!!!® and 18 local chefs created signature dishes for a live audience. For those who may have missed the excitement, the recorded demonstrations will be available on Comcast ON Demand in August.

The first annual Dock Dogs competition was the highlight for many who visited the Bite's expanded Shishkaberry's Family Fun Zone in Seattle Center's new Center Square venue. Nationally-ranked dogs from around the United States showed off their long leaps and high-flying jumps while the huge crowds cheered them on. Event producers hope to bring dock Dogs back to the Bite in 2011.

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The Northwest's Premier Food Festival delivered on all fronts; free family fun, entertainment and a huge variety of culinary delights. The summer sunshine absent in recent weeks set the stage for a successful weekend for all.

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