

## ZAGAT BUZZ

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#### Upcoming Events: Star Chefs, Taste of the Village and More

On September 12th, Mexican staple [Rosa Mexicano](#) kicks off its 5th Annual Chocolate Festival with the addition of seven cocoa-based items to the menus at all three of its NYC locations. To kick off the festivities, which run through October 17th, chef David Suarez is offering a cooking demonstration and three-course luncheon on Saturday, September 15th, at the Union Square branch (10 AM cooking demonstration; 11:30 AM lunch; \$55 per person; 9 E. 18th St.; 212-533-3350).

The second [StarChefs.com International Chefs Congress](#) takes place September 16th–18th on the top two floors of 7 World Trade Center. This year's ICC will feature live cooking demonstrations, hands-on workshops and smaller discussions led by top toques from around the world, including [José Andrés](#), [David Bouley](#), [Wylie Dufresne](#) and [Joël Robuchon](#). Tickets are by invitation only and limited to food service industry professionals (for more information, go to [www.starchefs.com](#)) – but the public can get a taste of the action at its gala finale, the annual [New York Rising Stars Revue](#). The dine-around event will feature pushcarts filled with high-concept street food from up-and-coming toques around town, all specially paired with cocktails and wine (September 18; 8 PM; \$125 per person; \$200 VIP admission is also available; Mansion, 530 W. 28th St.; to purchase tickets, go to [www.starchefs.com](#)).

The same evening, the [Four Seasons](#) is hosting a [20th anniversary celebration](#) of the [James Beard Foundation](#); the dinner will highlight Beard classics and kick off [a series of nationwide events](#) (September 18; 7 PM; \$500 per person; call 212-754-9494 for reservations).

Ever wander around the Village unable to decide on a place to eat because they all look so good and you forgot your Zagat guide at home? Now you can sample a little bit from all of them. On September 18th, the [Village Alliance](#) will host the 5th annual "Taste of the Village" benefit for Washington Square Park. Located, unsurprisingly, in Washington Square Park, the event will feature samples of signature dishes from 15 local eateries including [Blue Hill](#), [Café Spice](#), [Jack Bistro](#), [North Square](#) and [Otto](#), along with beverages provided by IS-Wine, Anthony Road Wine, Fizzy Lizzy and the Brooklyn Brewery (6–8 PM; \$40 per person; 212-777-2173).

Finally, do you love pig? The folks over at [Il Buco](#) certainly do. In honor of the Autumnal Equinox, executive chef Ignacio Mattos will slow-roast a 160 lb. Ossabaw pig outside of the restaurant on September 20th (1–6 PM; \$20 per plate; 47 Bond St.; 212-533-1932).