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STARCHEFS.COM HONORS RISING STARS

We're not the only ones obsessed with Aaron Siegel's Fiery Ron's Home Team BBQ. StarChefs.com, an online magazine, has named Fiery Ron's a winning concept — "a creative, successful, well-executed, and chef-driven restaurant concept that has met with success in the local market and could be successfully expanded, either locally or nationally." He was chosen after a nomination process along with personal interviews and tastings by a Star Chefs committee.

The magazine has chosen to spotlight the Carolinas as a region in this year's Rising Stars awards, and Siegel along with a handful of other local chefs will be featured in a gala event at the Memminger in December.

Those other winning chefs are Travis
Grimes of Husk, Jason Stanhope of FIG,
Josh Keeler of Two Boroughs Larder, and
Stuart Tracy of Butcher & Bee. Additional
awards are being handed out to Brad Ball
of Social for sommelier, Joe Raya of the
Gin Joint for his mixology skills, and David
Schnell of Brown's Court Bakery for his
artisanal baked goods.

They'll be joined by an impressive roster of North and South Carolina chefs, including **Katie Button** of **Curate** in Asheville, **Nathan Allen** of **Knife and Fork** in Spruce Pine, N.C., and **Vivian Howard** of the Chef and the Farmer in Kinston, N.C.

The event is being billed as a tasting gala, where the 26 chefs will present a signature dish or drink. **Charles Arena** from the **Fish House** will be the VIP Host

Chef. Tickets are \$85, and VIP tickets for \$115 will get you some caviar and bubbles during a private reception.

Looks like yet another can't-miss food event this season. Visit starchefs.com for more info. —SB @



