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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Attention News/Health/Food & Lifestyle Editors:

Winterlicious event brings together culinary students to battle it out at SCHOOL

TORONTO, ON – (Jan 26, 2010) – Top culinary students, celebrity judges and a \$2000 cash prize. It sounds like the next reality show, but is actually a local Toronto event taking place as a part of Winterlicious, presented by American Express® 2010 Culinary Event Series. On February 2, 2010 between 6-8 p.m., three culinary students will face off to become the reigning chef in *Making the Grade: Rising Chef Citrus Cook-off*. Top three students from Stratford Chefs School, Niagara College and Humber College culinary programs, will each create an appetizer, an entrée and a dessert featuring Florida grapefruit in front of a panel of judges and 70 audience members. SCHOOL restaurant in Liberty Village will host the event while Executive Chef Brad Moore will serve Florida citrus-inspired dishes and beverages throughout the course of the evening.

"This is a great opportunity to showcase the talent of the youngest chefs," says Brad Moore, executive chef, SCHOOL. "Culinary students bring a fresh approach to ingredients like Florida grapefruit, while their talent and enthusiasm really shines in a competitive setting. They will be pushed creatively and physically as they prepare three Florida grapefruit dishes in front of a live audience to compete for the top prize."

Cookbook Store manager Alison Fryer, Chef and Blogger Teo Paul and internationally acclaimed cookbook writer Jennifer McLagan will judge the three courses based on taste, originality/creativity and ease of preparation. Each competitor will receive a Wüsthof knife and the winner will be awarded a \$2,000 cash prize. Guests can enter for a chance to win a SCHOOL restaurant gift certificate and everyone will walk away with a gift bag that includes easy-to-make Florida citrus recipes for everyday dining.

Reservations for the Rising Chef Citrus Cook-Off are made on a first-come, first-serve basis. To make your reservation and secure your ticket, contact the event line at (416) 642-7957 or send an email to makingthegrade@golinharris.com. Tickets are \$35 including taxes. Don't delay for this thrilling competition.

About the Florida Department of Citrus (FDOC)

The Florida Department of Citrus (FDOC) is an executive agency of the Florida government charged with the marketing, research and regulation of the Florida citrus industry. Its activities are funded by a tax paid by growers on each box of citrus that moves through commercial channels.

About Winterlicious Culinary Event Series

Winterlicious, presented by American Express® Culinary Event Series again shines the spotlight on Toronto's unrivalled culinary industry with a series of 10 mouth-watering culinary events. Winterlicious, is as part of Toronto's award-winning WinterCity Festival, offering a city-wide celebration of culture, creativity and cuisine. Ignore the cold and snow and get out and celebrate all that Toronto has to offer in the winter.

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