



**CITY OF  
TUCSON**

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **UNESCO CELEBRATES TUCSON'S CITY OF GASTRONOMY DESIGNATION AT PARIS EVENT**

At the invitation of the U.S. Commission to UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization), on the eve of the 2017 UNESCO Creative Cities Network annual conference in the Paris, there will be a cooking demonstration to present the distinctive cuisine that helped Tucson earn its designation as the first UNESCO City of Gastronomy in the United States. James Beard Award-winning Chef Janos Wilder will prepare a sampling of traditional and modern dishes that showcase the ancient ingredients of our region

Funded by a grant from the U.S. Commission to UNESCO, the event will be held at UNESCO headquarters in Paris on June 28. The 200 attendees will include UNESCO officials, delegates from the five other U.S. Creative Cities, journalists from French and international media, and local dignitaries. Welcoming remarks by the U.S. chargé d'affaires in France will be followed by presentations by each of the six U.S. Creative Cities, concluding with Tucson and an introduction of Chef Wilder. During the event, a slideshow of Tucson's food history and gastronomy will be projected.

Jonathan Mabry, the City's representative to UNESCO, observes that leveraging the designation has become an integral part of Tucson's economic development. "It is already expanding our heritage-based economic assets and highlighting them on a global platform, linking them to tourism development and creation of new business opportunities," Mabry said.

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