

**Sold-out crowd of 1,800 to attend
Empty Bowls 2011 in Fort Worth
Friday, Feb. 18, 2011**

NEW

SOUPS & DESSERTS
to be served are
now listed –
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Presented by Tom Thumb and Benefiting Tarrant Area Food Bank

2,400 handcrafted or hand-painted bowls
Soups, desserts from 28 Fort Worth area chefs

FORT WORTH, TX (February 16, 2011)—The sold-out crowd of 1,800 guests for Empty Bowls 2011 in Fort Worth is 300 more than last year. This year's EMPTY BOWLS--An Artful Taste to Fight Hunger is presented by Tom Thumb on Friday, Feb. 18. All proceeds benefit Tarrant Area Food Bank and its network of hunger-relief charities in 13 counties.

Awaiting guests are bowls of clay, wood, glass and metal by master artisans as well as mouth-watering **soups and desserts from executive chefs of restaurants such as** Bailey's Prime Plus, Lonesome Dove Western Bistro and Eddie V's Prime Seafood. Some chefs will, themselves, serve their cuisine.

"The number of guests at Empty Bowls in Fort Worth has increased each year for the past five years," said Susan Frye, community events director at Tarrant Area Food Bank. "We keep moving the event to larger venues to accommodate more guests. This year's space is the largest yet and should be comfortable for our 1,800 ticket-holders and 140 volunteers," Frye said.

WHEN/WHERE

Empty Bowls 2011 is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the West Texas Room of the Amon G. Carter Exhibit Hall at the Will Rogers Memorial Center, 3401 W. Lancaster, Fort Worth 76107.

WHAT

At Empty Bowls, each ticket-holder may:

- **Select, as a keepsake, a bowl** crafted or painted by a professional, student or recreational artisan;
- **Sample soups and desserts** by some of Fort Worth's top chefs. **ALL SOUPS NOW LISTED.**
EXECUTIVE CHEFS planning to serve their signature soups include: Asdren Azemi of Ruffino's Ristorante Italiano (Split Green Pea Sunchoke Soup), Christian Marentes of Bob's Steak & Chop House (Lobster Bisque), Jon Bonnell of Bonnell's (White Bean Gazpacho with Crab), Mike Jackson of Cast Iron at the Omni Fort Worth Hotel (Butternut Squash Bisque with Cinnamon Crème Fraiche), Juan Rodriguez of Reata Restaurant (Southwest Enchilada) and James Morris of Vidalia's at The Worthington (Crab Bisque).
(GREEN IS STILL IN at Empty Bowls. Dishes and eating utensils are made from potato and corn starches, organic matter that decomposes quickly without harming the environment.);
- **At the Bump Table, trade in one's bowl for a more artistic one** and donate an additional \$25, which is worth 100 meals for families in need;
- **In the Gallery, select one of a limited number** of special bowls (40 to 50) created by master artisans for \$100, a donation worth 400 meals for families in need.
- **Purchase raffle tickets for the colorful handmade quilt, "Farmers' Market,"** with squares featuring fruits and vegetables;
- **Bid in a Silent Auction for items that include items such as a** BMW Pedal Car, a fireplace mantel surround, a 4-foot bird house cross, a Texas platter and cookbook set from State Senator Jane Nelson, a 14-karat white-gold cluster pendant with an orange-yellow sapphire surrounded by diamonds (valued at \$2,300) and unique pottery and art by professional artisans including a stained-glass window, a blown glass piece, ceramic platters and necklace and earring sets.

-MORE-

ARTISANS & PROVIDERS OF CUISINE:

ARTISANS & STUDIOS donating bowls and other art include, AMONG OTHERS:

- Janet Rodriguez/Hart Street Pottery and customers who painted bowls
- Carolyn Adkisson/Earth to Art
- Rachel Bates/Passion Pottery
- Marilyn Brumley (Stained Glass)
- Paula Cadle/Arlington
- Holly B. Mack/Arlington Arts League
- David Gappa/Vetro Glassblowing Studio
- John Gavia/Fort Worth
- Ethel Harvill/Mystic Flame Pottery
- Ron Hollister Pottery
- Leah Leach/Roaring Rabbit Pottery
- Pam McMahon/Pin Oak Pottery
- Kashmira Mistry/Roanoke
- Darla Morris/Stacked Rock Pottery
- Roy Odom & Cindi Wills/Soul Flame Pottery (formerly Stonecreek Studio Pottery)
- Ken Orr/Orr Pottery
- Stormie Parker/Windstorm Pottery
- David Sieja/Yaki-Tam Pottery
- Kim Shearer/Dragonfly Pottery
- Pam Summers & Raymond Raines/Cliff House Studio
- June Whitacre/Tokyo Rose Clayworks
- LMRA Potters Studio/Barbara Throne, Carol Standridge, Orbyr Chamblee, Kay Bernier
- Barbara Baker, Bobby Darr
- The Woodturners of North Texas

NEW list of cuisine!

RESTAURANTS, CATERERS, CULINARY SCHOOLS

donating soups and desserts:

NEW IN 2011

- Bailey's Prime Plus – Seafood Chowder
- Eddie V's Prime Seafood – Tomato Gazpacho w/Shrimp Ceviche
- Freebirds World Burrito - Burrito Bowls
- Houlihan's – Baked Potato Soup
- Nothing Bundt Cakes - Cake samples
- Tillman's Roadhouse – Famous Chocolate Chip Cookies

RETURNING IN 2011

- Blue Bonnet Bakery - Bread
- Bob's Steak & Chop House - Lobster Bisque (Soup)
- Bonnell's - White Bean Gazpacho with Crab (Soup)
- Cast Iron at the Omni Fort Worth – Butternut Squash Bisque w/Cinnamon Crème Fraiche (Soup)
- City Kitchen Catering - Vegetable Tortilla Soup & desserts
- The Culinary School of Fort Worth – Cream Puffs
- La Familia – Cactus Bean Soup
- Lonesome Dove Western Bistro - Pork Hatch Chili
- Mac's on 7th Street – Seafood Gumbo
- McKinley's Fine Bakery & Cafe – Cookies, Lemon Bars
- Panera Bread – Mini Bread Bowl w/ Creamy Tomato or Chicken Noodle Soup
- Pappasito's Cantina - Tortilla Soup
- Paris Coffee Shop- Fruit Pies
- Reata Restaurant – Southwest Enchilada Soup
- Risky's Catering - Chili
- Ruffino's Ristorante Italiano - Split Green Pea Sunchoke Soup
- Starbucks - Coffee. Coca-Cola – Soft drinks & Water.
- Tarrant Area Food Bank Community Kitchen (3 items) – Crostini w/ Olive Tapenade, Crostini w/ Sun-dried Tomato & Artichoke Hearts (Appetizers), Baked Potato Soup
- Tarrant County College Southeast Campus Culinary Arts – Chicken and Gnocchi Soup
- Tom Thumb Signature Soups (2) - Tomato Basil, Fiesta Tortilla
- Ultimate Cuisine and Events – Crawfish Bisque w/ Herb Crostini
- Vidalia's at The Worthington – Crab Bisque
- Wild About Food (TBA)

WHY ATTEND:

Tarrant Area Food Bank's partner charities in 13 counties reported **an increase of 20 percent last year in the number of families seeking food assistance; that is on top of the 20 percent increase the year before.** Each month, the Tarrant Area Food Bank network of hunger-relief charities distributes emergency groceries to more than 40,000 families and serves 565,000 meals and snacks on charities' sites.

The ticket price of \$40 enables Tarrant Area Food Bank **to provide food for 160 meals.** Each \$1.00 of additional donations made for the quilt raffle, silent auction, a Bump Bowl or a Gallery Bowl allows Tarrant Area Food Bank to supply food equivalent to four meals.

-MORE-

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OTHER ACTIVITIES AT EMPTY BOWLS:

Watch a Pottery Demonstration by Ken Orr

Watch a Wood-turning Demonstration by Dewayne Hines of the Wood Turners of North Texas

View the “Farmers Market” raffle quilt made and donated by Rhonda Hines

SPONSORS

Presenting Sponsor: Tom Thumb

Corporate: Urology Associates of North Texas

Media: WFAA-TV, WBAP 820, *Star-Telegram*, *Indulge*

Green Sponsors: *Star-Telegram*, *Indulge*

Green Paper Donor: Excellent Packaging

(Dishes and eating utensils are made from potato and corn starches, organic matter that decomposes quickly without harming the environment.)

Soup Pot: Crystelle Waggoner Charitable Trust (Bank of America Trustee), GM Financial, XTO Energy

Soup Bowl: Kay & Bob Bolz, Jere Robertson

Soup Ladle: Bob & Corinne Dillon, DuBose Family Foundation, Dunaway & Associates, Farmers Market Fort Worth, Inc., Wells Fargo

Program: Coors Distributing Company of Fort Worth

Silent Auction: Fort Worth & Western Railroad

Invitation: Betty, Keith & Preston Rogers

Decorations: BNSF Railway

Parking Sponsor: Cash America International

Invitation Printer: 4 Color Press

Program Printer: Lockheed Martin Aeronautics

Soup Spoon: Acme Brick, Altrusa, Ben E. Keith, Colavita Baci Texas Cycling Team, Frost, Fort Worth Transportation Authority (The T), Haltom’s Jewelers, Higginbotham & Associates, Keene & Associates, Louella & Nicholas Martin Charitable Foundation, Nancy & John McClane, Mrs. Renfro’s Foods, Pier 1, Rosalyn Rosenthal, Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Fort Worth, TXU.

ABOUT TARRANT AREA FOOD BANK

Founded in 1982 to collect and distribute donated food to hunger-relief charities, Tarrant Area Food Bank provides food in 13 counties to 300 partner charities, including emergency pantries, Kids Cafes, BackPacks for Kids and other after-school programs, emergency shelters, senior centers, low-income childcare centers and other social service centers.

COUNTIES SERVED include Denton, Tarrant, Johnson, Parker, Wise, Hood, Somervell, Cooke, Erath, Palo Pinto, Bosque, Hamilton and Hill.

Last year, the Food Bank distributed more than 22 million pounds of groceries to its partner charities; that is enough food for more than 17 million meals.

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