



## **BRAVO! Cucina Italiana's Innovative "BRAVO! Chef Competizion" Finals Slated for July**

**COLUMBUS, Ohio**—BRAVO! Cucina Italiana, a **BRAVO|BRIO Restaurant Group** concept, is assembling six BRAVO! regional competition winners from across the country for its third annual culinary contest, known better as the "BRAVO! Chef Competizion." Ovens will be fired up at BRAVO|BRIO Restaurant Group headquarters in Columbus on Thursday morning, July 16.

BRAVO! Cucina Italiana regional chef frontrunners from Pittsburgh, Orlando, Indianapolis, Cleveland, Des Moines and Kansas City are set to go fork and knife against each other in the ultimate cooking contest. The yearly cooking competition fosters chefs' creativity and is part of a company-wide undertaking that celebrates BRAVO!'s culinary culture. Inventive dishes that range from appetizers to entrees will be judged by local and culinary celebrities and evaluated on flavor, presentation, name and fit with the BRAVO! brand. The BRAVO! winner will receive a trip to Italy.

The contest invites all BRAVO! Cucina Italiana chefs in the United States to participate. In all, 44 chefs from 19 states competed in six regional competitions this year. Last year's winner was Chef Jordan Eback from the Cranberry, Pittsburgh BRAVO! location with his winning dish, "Ravioli Ratatouille."

*BRAVO! Cucina Italiana is a casual, white-tablecloth restaurant offering classic Italian food amongst the shadows of Roman ruins. The subtitle "Cucina Italiana" means Italian kitchen, in which all cooking is done in full view of the guest, creating the energy of a live theater. BRAVO!'s popular entrees include wood-grilled steaks, chops, and made-to-order pastas and house specialties, similar to an authentic 'ristorante' in Italy. BRAVO! is part of Columbus-based BRAVO|BRIO Restaurant Group. Founded in 1992, BRAVO|BRIO Restaurant Group currently operates more than 80 restaurants including BRAVO! Cucina Italiana, BRIO Tuscan Grille and Bon Vie Bistro. Check the website for BRAVO! locations at [www.bbrg.com](http://www.bbrg.com).*

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