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Royal Park Hotel Chefs Showcase Local Michigan Products At The James Beard House In New York City.

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NEW YORK CITY, January 2011 – The Royal Park Hotel and other member hotels gathered at CARINO Hotels and Resorts Worldwide 9th Annual Sales, Marketing & Reservation Conference held January 17-21 at the Harvard Club of New York City.

The conference included a 9th anniversary client recognition dinner at the renowned James Beard House and showcased the culinary creations of CARINO member hotels' top chefs from across the nation, taking top New York clients on a nationally inspired culinary tour. Royal Park Hotel Executive Chef, Colin Brown and Banquet Chef, Dan Vernia had the honor and privilege to showcase a local Michigan inspired menu.

Executive Chef Colin Brown shared, “having participated in a James Beard event a couple of years ago in Cincinnati it was a privilege and an honor to be asked to cook at his house in New York City. What a fantastic and inspirational experience! Being from Europe and having worked with some of the finest chefs in the world, it was a special privilege to be in his home experiencing the legacy that “James Beard” left for generations to come. I enjoyed very much being able to view his archive of cooking books. It was a fond memory which I will never forget.”



James Beard was an eccentric personality who introduced French cooking to the American household in the 1950s. He was a pioneer foodie and an early champion of the use of local products. Beard nurtured a generation of American chefs and cookbook authors who have changed the way we eat. He has written over twenty best selling cookbooks and was a well known television personality.

The James Beard townhouse is located in the heart of Greenwich Village, New York. Talented chefs from all over the world continue the legacy and have the honor of cooking in James Beard's authentic kitchen.

The Royal Park Chefs infused many local Michigan flavors. The menu was a show-stopper and a NY hit! Guests raved about the Lake Michigan Whitefish & Trout and other home-grown Michigan favorites shipped to New York for this spectacular event.

The Menu Featured the following...

- **Black Star Farms Raclette *"Leelanau Cheese Company"* with Pickled Turnip Salad**
- **Apple Wood Smoked Lake Michigan Whitefish and Lake Trout with Heirloom Golden Beets and Micro *"Chef's Garden"* Basil**
- **Braised Shoulder of *"Black Oak Farms"* Pork with Braised Winter Greens, Roasted Garlic Hollandaise, Poached Quail Egg and Micro Beets Shoots**
- **Aged *"Oliver Farms Dairy"* White Cheddar Cheese Crème Brulee on Caramelized Onion and Rye Bread with Roasted Pears**
- **Miniature Sticky Toffee and Michigan Apple Pudding with *"Paint Creek Cider Mill"* Apple Cider Custard Sauce**



"What a privilege to be invited to assist our Executive Chef Colin Brown with his menu at The James Beard House" said Dan Vernia, Royal Park Hotel Banquet Chef. "Although his kitchen has been re-equipped to accommodate the numerous events that are hosted there, I was able to get a true feeling of this being his home and what it must have been like when Mr. Beard himself was cooking and entertaining. It was also a special honor to help source the regional ingredients that helped define the Royal Park Hotel's menu for this event. Our Midwest shopping list represented some of the finest products and producers available, all part of our daily routine. The Michigan inspired menu showed very well on an evening that featured four other Chefs from around the Country bringing their best as well for this unique opportunity."

To learn more about the James Beard House and their diverse programs including workshops, classes, conferences, readings, and other educational experiences that help people learn about and engage with food check out the website:

<http://www.jamesbeard.org>

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