**NEWS RELEASE –** Immediate Release

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**Keiser University Center for Culinary Arts Participates**

**in the 24th Annual Florida Winefest & Auction**

Sarasota, FL – May 23, 2014 — On Thursday, May 29, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. [Keiser University’s](http://www.keiseruniversity.edu/) Center for Culinary Arts will participate in the 24th Annual Florida Winefest & Auction being held at Mattison’s 41 located at 7275 South Tamiami Trail in Sarasota.

This event brings together local chefs to benefit two local organizations, ACF Sarasota Bay Chef’s Association ([www.acfsarasota.com](http://www.acfsarasota.com)) and the Florida Winefest Charities. From Keiser, faculty and student chefs will be preparing and plating the courses Keiser University will be entering. The Sarasota Bay Chef’s Association helps local chefs and student culinarians by awarding scholarships for either education, materials, or certification. The Florida Winefest Charities have donated to more than 80 local organizations.

“Participating in an event like this with our students helps get them involved with other chefs and grow professionally,” said Blake Ellis, PCEC, Culinary, Baking and Pastry Arts Instructor and President of the ACF Sarasota Bay Chefs Association.  “Our goal is to get the students involved so not only will they gain the experience of this fine-dining event, but they will enhance their future careers by becoming professional members upon graduation.”

For a list of the charities and to purchase tickets, please visit [www.floridawinefest.org](http://www.floridawinefest.org)

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**About:** Keiser University is a private, not-for-profit university serving nearly 20,000 students pursuing doctoral through associate degrees on 17 campuses, online and internationally, employing 3,500 staff and faculty.

Sixty-two percent of KU students graduate in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and healthcare fields, providing the talented workforce necessary for Florida to compete globally.

Keiser University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award certificates and degrees at the associate, baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral levels. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Keiser University.