

# Arizona State Fair

Oct. 10 - Nov. 2, 2008  
Closed Mondays

COOKING CONTESTS.../1

[www.azstatefair.com](http://www.azstatefair.com)

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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## 2008 Cooking Contests tantalize taste buds and test talents

*If you can't stand the heat –have some pie*

**Phoenix, Arizona, (October 12, 2008)** — The Arizona State Fair has always been a hotbed of competition in just about any category you can imagine—armwrestling, rodeo, figure 8 racing, heifer breeding, arts and crafts—so it's no surprise the Fair is fired up for cooking contests.

This year's Fair provides competitions in a wide range of culinary categories where contestants vie for honor, cash prizes and possibly, a bit of heartburn.

There is only one contest that will test your appetite and speed: the **Marie Callender's Pie Eating Contest**. Open to fairgoers of all ages, this classic Fair tradition will pit pie-eating contestants against each other as they try to consume as many pies in the designated time period. Sure to be messy and delicious, the event is located in the Arizona Lottery Backyard on Saturdays, Oct. 18 at 4 p.m., Oct. 25 at 2 p.m. and Nov. 1 at 2 p.m.

If watching the creation of a mouthwatering masterpiece is more your style, then check out this year's culinary competitions and cheer on your favorite culinary champion:

- **Ghirardelli Chocolate Championship** – Saturday, Oct. 11, 12 p.m., South Hall Coliseum. Competitors prepare their most decadent chocolate recipe for a dessert or treat. First place: \$150 and Ghirardelli gift basket.
- **Fleischmann's Yeast "Bake for the Cure" Baking Contest** – Wednesday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m., South Hall Coliseum. Categories are yeast breads of any type and "batter breads" any bread with no kneading or multiple rise times. Increase Breast Cancer Awareness across the country. For every entry, ACH Food Companies will contribute \$10 to Susan G. Komen for the Cure. First place: \$150.

- **C&H® Sugar "Coffee Shoppe"** – Thursday, Oct. 16, 7 p.m., South Hall Coliseum. Entrants will create a tasty treat using C&H® sugar that could be enjoyed while drinking a favorite cup of coffee or tea. First place: \$100.
- **Stick with Canola Oil - Fry It for the Fair Contest** – Saturday, Oct. 18, 12 p.m., South Hall Coliseum. Competing cooks combine up to 10 ingredients, fry it in any brand canola oil and put it on a stick. First place: \$200.
- **Eagle Brand Great Baking Bonanza** – Wednesday, Oct. 22, 7 p.m., South Hall Coliseum. Competitors bake their best dessert with Eagle Brand® Sweetened Condensed Milk. First place: \$100 and 10 free product coupons.
- **The Great American SPAM Championship** – Saturday, Oct. 25, 12 p.m. South Hall Coliseum. The 2008 SPAM™ Contest seeks the greatest appetizers in two age categories. Adults 18 years and up, first place \$150; children 7 – 17 years old; first place \$60.
- **Hidden Valley The Original Ranch® Salad Dressing & Seasoning Mix "Fresh Taste for the Family" Recipe Contest** – Wednesday, Oct. 29, 7 pm, South Hall Coliseum. Cooks will attempt to entice the judges with an original, crowd-pleasing entrée, appetizer or side dish. First place: \$200.
- **Make It With Malt-O-Meal Recipe Contest** – Saturday, Nov. 1, 12 p.m., South Hall Coliseum. Entrants demonstrate how to make any food creation, from a hearty meal to a sweet-treat dessert, with any Malt-O-Meal brand cold cereal. First place: \$100

More information and official rules about culinary contests at the 2008 Arizona State Fair can be found at: <http://azstatefair.com/contests/contestrules.aspx>.

The 124th annual Arizona State Fair runs from October 10 to November 2 (closed on Mondays) and will host a variety of fun-filled attractions, activities and rides for all ages at its location at 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue and McDowell Road in Phoenix. For more information, visit [www.azstatefair.com](http://www.azstatefair.com).

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