

# American Pie Council Names the Nation's Top Commercial Pie Makers

## *Baker's Square Tops the Pie Pack with 25 First Place Ribbons at the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual APC National Pie Championships*

ORLANDO (April 9, 2018) – From the Rocky Mountains to Lakeland, Florida, they came, they baked and they conquered America's sweetest challenge – to be named the best pie in nation!

The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual APC National Pie Championships were held April 6 and 7 in Orlando at the Rosen Centre Hotel. Here, amateur, professional and commercial bakers entered their most delicious pies among an array of flavor categories for bragging rights to be named the nation's best. From apple and pumpkin to an open category and savory pot pies, hundreds of pie were sampled by more than 200 judges throughout the two-day competition.

Bakers Square maintains its tagline "Selling the Best Pies in America" with 25 first place ribbons, the most among commercial competitors. Among the judges' 25 favorites were Salty Hog Chocolate Pie, Creamy Orange Float Pie, Fruitabulous Pie and Spumoni Pie to name a few. Following closely was Legendary Baking with 22 first place winning pies. The entire list of winning commercial bakers with their headquarter cities includes:

Bakers Square, Denver, Colo. – 25  
Legendary Baking, Denver, Colo. – 22  
Harlan Bakeries, Avon., Ind. – 17  
Rocky Mountain Pies, Park City, Utah – 9  
Southeastern Grocers, Jacksonville, Fla. – 8  
Publix Supermarkets, Lakeland, Fla. – 7  
Sam's Clubs, Bentonville, Ariz. – 7  
Table Talk, Worcester, Mass. – 5  
Lisa's Pies, Atlanta, Ind. – 5  
Westons Foods, Brownsburg, Ind. – 4  
Hard Core Pies – 3  
Sunset Grill, Clearwater, Fla. – 3  
Wayne's Family Restaurant, Oconto, Wisc. – 3  
Albertson's, Boise, Idaho – 2  
Wick's Pies, Winchester, Ind. – 2  
Norske Nook, Osseo, Wisc. – 1  
World of Pies – 1

In addition to sweet pies, savory Pies were on the menu three first place pot pie wins – with Wick's Pies winning a blue ribbon in the premium category for their 5" Chicken Pot Pie, World of Pies garnering top honors in the independent category for its Steak, Bacon & Ale Pie and in the family category, Southeastern Grocers' Chicken Pot Pie.

"What an incredible array of competitors this year," said Linda Hoskins, Executive Director, American Pie Council. "Our commercial bakers represent the best of the best in the pie

making industry. They pulled out all of the stops to the delight of the judges and certainly earned their blue ribbons as the nation's best."

Once the pies were delivered and judging commenced, competitors and the general public were invited to learn insider tips and tricks to enhance their pie making skills. Chef Joe DiPaolo of Pinnacle Foods demoed deconstruction in the form of a cream pie; while Chefs Donald Wressell and Josh Johnson, with The Guittard Chocolate Company, delivered the 411 with Chocolate 101, to name a few of the seminars.

For more information on the American Pie Council and to learn more about next year's 25<sup>th</sup> APC National Pie Championships, visit [www.piecouncil.org](http://www.piecouncil.org).

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