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Call for Maine Lobster Festival Cooking Contest

ROCKLAND — Amateur chefs are invited to sign up for the annual Maine Lobster Festival Seafood Cooking Contest. The contest is part of the 71st annual festival, which will be held Aug. 1 through Aug. 5 at Harbor Park along the city's waterfront.

Amateur chefs age 18 and older are welcome to compete for more than \$500 in prize money during this popular event. A panel will pick five contestants and their recipes to participate in the contest. Selection is based on creativity, suitability of the seafood to the recipe and simplicity. The recipes can be any dish and must contain seafood found in Maine waters.

The contest will begin at 9 a.m., Friday, Aug. 3, in the North Entertainment Tent on the festival grounds. Judging will begin at 11:30 a.m., with prizes announced and awarded around 12:30 p.m. First prize is \$200, second prize is \$175, and third prize is \$150. Lead Sponsor for this event is Fiore Artisan Olive Oils and Vinegar.

The contest audience will have the opportunity to sample the prepared recipes in the cooking area and pick up the contestants' recipes after the awards are presented.

For additional contest details and to download an application form, visit www.MaineLobsterFestival.com or contact Celia Knight by e-mail at celia@knightmarineservice.com or call 207-542-1192.

Applications will be considered until July 15. Selected contestants will be notified by July 17.