

Meijer is excited to share that nationally-acclaimed celebrity chef **Mario Batali** and culinary expert **Gail Simmons** will participate in this year's **Meijer LPGA Celebrity Chef Cookoff presented by Kraft**. Both Batali and Simmons will prepare an appetizer and main course while interacting with guests throughout the evening. The event will also feature local pastry fare that guests will have a chance to try and vote for their favorite.

"Grand Rapids is a city that is passionate about great food, which is why we think this specific event is such a highlight of tournament week," **Meijer President J.K. Symancyk** said.

Both Batali and Simmons bring impressive resumes to the table. Batali counts 26 restaurants, 10 cookbooks, numerous television shows and more.

Simmons is a trained culinary expert and judge on Bravo's Emmy-winning series "Top Chef," as well as head critic on "Top Chef Masters." She participated alongside Cat Cora and Carla Hall in last year's Meijer LPGA Celebrity Chef Cookoff.

The entertaining and interactive cooking event will be held at 6:30 p.m. July 24 at the **Grand Rapids Public Museum** with event proceeds benefiting the [Meijer Simply Give](#) program, which replenishes the shelves of food pantries throughout the Midwest. A limited number of general public tickets are now on sale. The ticket includes food, wine and a ticket to the golf tournament for the weekend.

To purchase a ticket or learn more, please visit meijerLPGAclassic.com.

<https://meijercommunity.com/2015-05-06-Mario-Batali-and-Gail-Simmons-to-Compete-in-Meijer-LPGA-Celebrity-Chef-Cookoff-presented-by-Kraft>