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## **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Empanada Challenge September 1 – 30, 2022 in Chelsea, Atlantic City**

**Atlantic City – ACDevco and Chelsea Economic Development Corporation** (Chelsea EDC) are pleased to announce the **3<sup>rd</sup> annual Empanada Challenge** to be held throughout the month of September among ten restaurants in the city's Chelsea neighborhood. A celebration and announcement of the winner will take place Saturday, October 1 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the **C.R.O.P.S. Market@Chelsea** in O'Donnell Park Memorial Park. **New this year is an Empanada Passport** offering customers the opportunity to win a signature 2022 Empanada Challenge t-shirt by sampling empanadas from all participating restaurants.

The contest was created in 2020 during the pandemic to encourage support of Chelsea's local businesses while highlighting cultural diversity among neighborhood restaurants.

Empanada voters simply need to buy and taste an empanada from two or more (or all ten) of the participating restaurants anytime during the month of September, then cast their vote for their favorite at [www.ChelseaEDC.org](http://www.ChelseaEDC.org). Information about the restaurants and their unique empanadas are also on the site. Participating restaurants include Boom Food Market, Mr. Taco, El Gran Chalan, El Patron Restaurant & Bar, Mexico Restaurant & Bar, Queens, Rincón Catracho, and Sabor Salvadoreno. The sponsors are pleased to welcome new contestants Sabor Latino II and Nicole's Corner Store.

The winner's event on October 1 will also include a celebrity judges' tasting with local chefs voting for

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best presentation, best filling, best crust, and best overall taste.

Chelsea's many restaurants are truly multicultural. In fact, the Empanada Challenge contestants reflect the flavors and customs of El Salvador, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Peru, Honduras, and Colombia. These local businesses are well known in the Chelsea neighborhood and the organizers are hopeful the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Empanada Challenge will introduce people from throughout the region to the International Food District of Chelsea. The ethnic restaurants have always contributed to the energy and vitality of the neighborhood.

Other top priorities for the Chelsea community include beautification, safety, home ownership, youth programming and recreation, and better paying jobs. The Chelsea Neighborhood Plan opens doors for grant funding. More information can be found at [www.ChelseaEDC.org](http://www.ChelseaEDC.org).

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