NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 23, 2024 Contact: Kathy Sautter 716-468-0216 ksautter@topsmarkets.com

Taste of Buffalo Seeks Local Artists for Buffalo Poster Art Contest

WILLIAMSVILLE, N.Y. – The Taste of Buffalo, presented by Tops Friendly Markets, is inviting local artists (students and the general public alike) to capture its essence in art by entering in the 2024 poster art contest. This year's festival, is taking place July 13-14, in Niagara Square and on a portion of Delaware Avenue. Presale food ticket vouchers will also be available for purchase at Tops Markets locations beginning in June.

The Poster Art Contest, which kicks off **February 25, 2024**, invites individuals 13 years of age and older to submit their original works of art that best convey the feel and flavor of this summertime food festival. Artwork must include a fork and at least one image of food. **Entries will be accepted until April 12, 2024**. Two cash prizes of \$500 each will be awarded (one in each of two age categories – Children 13-17 years of age and Adult 18+ years of age).

One grand prize winner will then be selected from the two finalists. The grand prize winner will receive an additional \$500 and their artwork will become the official 2024 Taste of Buffalo poster and may be used in some of the Taste's other marketing materials. The entries will be judged and the winners will be announced on or about April 25, 2024. A complete list of rules and design guidelines can be found on the Tops website at <u>https://www.topsmarkets.com/tasteofbuffalo.com</u>

"Buffalo's food and art scenes are two defining characteristics of what makes our region so special and unique, so we encourage any interested artists to participate in this year's poster art contest," said 2024 Chair, Tom Mahoney. "We can't wait to review all of the entries and showcase Buffalo artists' talents and creativity."

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About Tops Friendly Markets

Based in Williamsville, NY, Tops Markets currently operates 148 grocery stores in New York, Pennsylvania, and Vermont, including five that are run by franchisees. As the largest private, forprofit employer in Western New York, with over 14,000 associates, the company is dedicated to providing sustainably sourced, high-quality products, while helping its communities flourish via support for programs that eradicate hunger and disease, educate youth and reduce environmental waste and energy consumption. For more information, visit www.topsmarkets.com.

About Taste of Buffalo presented by Tops

The Taste of Buffalo presented by Tops is the nation's largest two-day food festival. The 41st annual Taste of Buffalo will take place on July 13 and 14, 2024 along Delaware Avenue in downtown Buffalo. Named winner of USA Today's 2023 10BEST Reader's Choice Travel Award Contest for "<u>Best City Food Festival</u>," the Taste is a not-for-profit organization with more than 1,000 volunteers helping to put on the annual event. More than \$575,000 has been raised at the festival for local charities in addition to scholarships awarded annually to local high school seniors pursuing a culinary or hospitality-related degree. For more information visit <u>tasteofbuffalo.com</u> and find us on Facebook and Instagram.