



**FOOD NETWORK CANADA'S DECADENT DESSERT
COMPETITION SERIES *GREAT CHOCOLATE SHOWDOWN*
DEBUTS ON FEBRUARY 4 AT 9 P.M. ET/PT**

The Judging Panel Consists of Celebrated Celebrity Chef Anna Olson,
Award-Winning Cake Designer Cynthia Stroud and
Pastry Chef and Chocolatier Steven Hodge

Purdys Chocolatier is the Official Chocolate Sponsor
of *Great Chocolate Showdown*



(L-R): Steven Hodge, Anna Olson and Cynthia Stroud.
Image Courtesy of Food Network Canada.

Get a first look at the series [here](#)

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For Immediate Release

TORONTO, December 5, 2019 – Get lost in the indulgent world of chocolate with [Great Chocolate Showdown](#), a new serialized dessert competition series that puts 10 home bakers to the test. Each week the bakers will be tasked with a range of exciting chocolate-based challenges to create sweet treats that must tantalize the taste buds of esteemed judges: television personality and best-selling cookbook author [Anna Olson](#), award-winning British cake designer [Cynthia Stroud](#) and renowned pastry chef and chocolatier [Steven Hodge](#). *Great Chocolate Showdown* makes its decadent debut **February 4 at 9 p.m. ET/PT** on **Food Network Canada**.

Following a North America-wide search, 10 home bakers have earned a ticket to the *Great Chocolate Showdown*, representing from coast to coast, including Los Angeles, Calif., Vancouver, B.C., Dallas, Texas, Saskatoon Sask., New York City, N.Y., Montreal, Que. and more. The [10 competitors](#) confirmed to compete for the title of *Great Chocolate Showdown* champion are:

- **Trinity Andrew**, 27 – Los Angeles, Calif.
- **Kathy Choffe**, 49 – Aurora, Ont.
- **Casey Hallen**, 32 – New York City, N.Y.
- **Andrew Keen**, 37 – Falls Church, Va.
- **T Lawrence-Simon**, 31 – Somerville, Mass.
- **Venessa Liang**, 27 – Saskatoon, Sask.
- **Renu Matthew**, 44 – Olds, Alta.
- **Fadi Odeh**, 36 – Dallas, Texas
- **Katie Rochin**, 21 – Montreal, Que.
- **Craig Taylor**, 47 – Vancouver, B.C.

Each week the talented batch of bakers will face with a range of creative and exciting chocolate-based competitions that will test their sweet imaginations and put their baking skills to the test. These challenges include everything from creating an out-of-this-world chocolate creation with a galactic mirror finish and baking an over-the-top spectacle cake, to reimagining a classic campfire treat and creating a chocolate confection with a spicy kick. Some of the bakers may melt under the pressure and only one will taste sweet victory by claiming the title of *Great Chocolate Showdown* champion and the \$50,000 grand prize.

Purdys Chocolatier joins as the official chocolate sponsor for *Great Chocolate Showdown*. Throughout all eight episodes the pantry will be stocked with Purdys products crafted from sustainable cocoa. The brand is also featured in four integrated episode challenges where the competitors will use some of the most popular Purdys items to make their own ooey-goey, yummy and chewy creations.

On foodnetwork.ca, viewers can learn more about the series and its cast and competitors, see exclusive behind-the-scenes photos, recipes and delicious how-tos with the judges after the episodes air. Fans can also watch full episodes online after broadcast at foodnetwork.ca/shows/great-chocolate-showdown.

Great Chocolate Showdown is produced by Architect Films in association with Corus Studios for Food Network Canada. For Architect Films, Tanya Linton and Mike Sheerin are Executive Producers. For Corus Studios and Food Network Canada, Debbie Brown is Executive in Charge of Production, Krista Look is Director, Original Lifestyle Content and Lisa Godfrey is Vice President of Original Content, Corus Entertainment.

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[#GreatChocolateShowdown](#)

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Food Network Canada is a Corus Entertainment Network.

About Corus Entertainment Inc.

Corus Entertainment Inc. (TSX: CJR.B) is a leading media and content company that develops and

delivers high quality brands and content across platforms for audiences around the world. Engaging audiences since 1999, the company's portfolio of multimedia offerings encompass 35 specialty television services, 39 radio stations, 15 conventional television stations, a suite of digital assets, animation software, technology and media services. Corus is an established creator of globally distributed content through Nelvana animation studio, Corus Studios, and children's book publishing house Kids Can Press. The company also owns innovative full-service social digital agency so.da, and lifestyle entertainment company Kin Canada. Corus' roster of premium brands includes Global Television, W Network, HGTV Canada, Food Network Canada, HISTORY®, Showcase, Adult Swim, National Geographic, Disney Channel Canada, YTV, Global News, Globalnews.ca, Q107, Country 105, and CFOX. Visit Corus at www.corusent.com.

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