



208 West 13th Street  
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[www.gaycenter.org](http://www.gaycenter.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
**May 14, 2009**

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## **Media Advisory / Calendar Item**

***Gourmet* Editor-in-Chief, Ruth Reichl, serves as event chair**

### **The only LGBT tasting event in the country to feature more than 35 restaurants to kick-off Pride Week in NYC**

Garden Party started in 1984 with 1,000 donors and friends and one catering company. Nowadays, Garden Party attracts over 2,300 friends and supporters and features over 35 food participants. Our celebrity chefs this year include **Daniel Angerer** (Klee Brasserie), **Rebecca Charles** (Pearl Oyster Bar) and **Dave Pasternak** (Esca). And back as our Event Chair this year is *Gourmet* Editor-in-Chief, **Ruth Reichl**!

Once upon a time, Garden Party was what we lovingly refer to as a “smorgasbord of Pride.” But three years ago the Center began an overhaul of its largest annual fundraiser, and now Garden Party is the only LGBT culinary festival in the country!

We are proud to welcome back longtime supporter **Prudential Financial** as our Principal Sponsor, and thank all our corporate sponsors, including Food Network, *Gourmet Magazine*, the film *Julie & Julia*, Zagat and our Exclusive Spirits Sponsor SKYY Vodka.

And we are thrilled to feature a very special **Foodies’ Silent Auction**, made up of some extraordinarily unique items like the “Live from New York” package that includes tickets to a rehearsal of “Saturday Night Live” and dinner at a great restaurant; “Dinner and a Movie,” a collection of movie passes and restaurant certificates; or “A Year of Coffee,” which gives the winner one pound of coffee every week from Porto Rico for 52 weeks! Also featured at the event is our **Pick-A-Box** raffle offering a chance to win a VIP Backstage Tour of the “Iron Chef America” kitchen and Food Network studio, VIP tickets to a taping of “Iron Chef America,” and so much more.

As the only LGBT tasting festival in the country, Garden Party is definitely a tasty treat every foodie can enjoy. For a full listing of more than 35 participating restaurants, visit [gaycenter.org](http://gaycenter.org).

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Garden Party raises much-needed funds that allow the Center to build and support our community through advocacy, culture and health programs, as well as meeting and conference services, while providing a safe and welcoming environment. Garden Party is generously supported by **Prudential Financial** as returning Principal Sponsor.



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**Interview / Photo Opportunities:** Select chefs will be available for interview; please inquire to the Center. High-resolutions photos are also available and pre- and post-event.

- WHAT** The only LGBT culinary festival in the country, benefiting the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center
- WHO** **Daniel Angerer** (Klee Brasserie), **Rebecca Charles** (Pearl Oyster Bar) and **Dave Pasternak** (Esca), Event Chair, *Gourmet* Editor-in-Chief, **Ruth Reichl**, and many more... Visit [gaycenter.org](http://gaycenter.org) for a full listing of participants.
- WHEN** Monday, June 22, 2009  
6:00 PM – 10:00 PM
- WHERE** Pier 54  
Hudson River Park Trust  
14th Street and the Westside Highway  
New York City
- HOW** Tickets vary in price, but start at \$85; General Admission prices increase to \$100 after June 1, 2009.  
  
Tickets are on sale exclusively through [gaycenter.org](http://gaycenter.org).
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#### **About the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center**

Established in 1983, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center, located at 208 West 13th Street in New York City is the largest LGBT community center on the East Coast. More than 6,000 people visit the Center weekly and 300 groups meet here. More information is available at [gaycenter.org](http://gaycenter.org).