



Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Alaska Symphony of Seafood – Announcing Call for Product 2023

Deadline for entry is Oct. 21, 2022

Wrangell, Alaska (Tuesday, August 30, 2022) —The Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation (AFDF) is proud to announce the 2023 Alaska Symphony of Seafood, including the [Call for Product](#). ***The deadline for entry into this year’s competition is Friday, October 21, 2022. The Call for Product can be downloaded [here](#).***

Since 1994, AFDF has organized the “Symphony”, a competition for commercial-ready value-added products made from Alaska seafood. The Symphony is an exciting platform that encourages companies to invest in value-added product development, helps promote those new products and competitively positions Alaska seafood in national and global markets. Product development is critically important to the entire industry and the fishing communities that depend on it. Innovative new products position the industry to remain competitive and relevant to consumers.

Previous winners and entrants have leveraged the Symphony platform and continue to see increased sales and market exposure of their products. Last year, Ocean Beauty Seafoods’ ***Echo Falls Wild Alaska Sockeye Salmon Tapas Slices – Mediterranean*** was a double winner (Retail and Salmon Categories), and moved on to be a finalist in the Seafood Excellence Awards during the Seafood Expo North America (SENA) in Boston. All the 2022 Symphony winners can be viewed [here](#).

The first of this year’s events, the Seattle Open House, will be held on the evening November 16, 2022, co-hosted with Northwest Fisheries Association, at Bell Harbor International Conference Center. Here, all products will be prepared and displayed by professional culinary staff. Following the judging, an Open House will be held for all entrants, seafood industry invitees, sponsors, the press and the judges. The next event will be an awards ceremony in Juneau on February 23, 2023, co-hosted by United Fishermen of Alaska, allowing the display and sampling of products by the Alaska Legislature and other special guests. Visit the AFDF [website](#) for more information on the Symphony, including sponsorship opportunities and upcoming dates.



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Symphony Initiative

After a delay due to COVID, AFDF has re-engaged its initiative to expand the positive impacts of the Symphony for the Alaska seafood industry. The industry has invested heavily in quality improvements (both during harvesting and processing) increasing the capacity to create new value-added products. As a result of these investments, the quality and sophistication of these products has reached a new level.

This year, the Symphony will feature six separate special awards: Grand Prize, Salmon, Whitefish, Seattle People's Choice, Juneau People's Choice and the Bristol Bay Choice, in addition to the categories of Retail, Food Service and Beyond the Plate. The new categories will allow more opportunities for promotion and recognition, including increased exposure for value-added products out of Bristol Bay.

The first-place winners from each category, plus the Bristol Bay Choice, will receive booth space at the distinguished SENA in Boston and entry into their national new product competition, the Seafood Excellence Awards, as well as airfare to and from the show provided by our sponsor, Alaska Air Cargo.

Bristol Bay Choice

The Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development Association (BBRSDA) and AFDF are the perfect partners to work together to support and promote the value-added products coming out of Bristol Bay. In recent years, the fleet has invested heavily in quality improvements and it is paying off by enabling product development. Increased quality at the point of harvest improves quality throughout the supply chain. This allows higher-quality value-added products, which is truly something to promote and celebrate. The Bristol Bay Choice was awarded for the first time in 2022 to the outstanding value-added product from Bristol Bay Sockeye, helping to raise awareness of high-quality products from the Bristol Bay region.

COMING SOON – Revamped AFDF Website!

AFDF is currently working to revamp its website. This investment

will enable AFDF to enable better promotion and recognition for all entrants and sponsors of this significant event. Stay tuned for the new website launch later in 2022!

Thank You to Sponsors

In order to hold these events, the Symphony is 100% funded by industry and its supporters each year. AFDF would like to recognize and thank our sponsors from last year. Major sponsors include Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute, Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development Association, Lineage Logistics, Trident Seafoods, Marine Stewardship Council, Northwest Fisheries Association, Alaska Air Cargo, At-Sea Processors Association and the United Fishermen of Alaska. See [here](#) for a complete list of sponsors from last year. Sponsorships are currently available for the 2023 events.

About the Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation

Founded in 1978, AFDF is dedicated to identifying common opportunities in the Alaska seafood industry and developing efficient, sustainable outcomes that provide benefits to the economy, environment and communities. For more information, visit www.afdf.org.



2022 Winner of the Bristol Bay Choice special award – Alaskan Leader Seafoods' *Wild Caught Bristol Bay*