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September 12 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. This is the restaurant's first fundraiser for CORE, a non-profit organization whose mission is to grant support to children of food and beverage service families navigating life-altering circumstances. Barry Gutin, principal and co-founder of GuestCounts Hospitality, LLC, which owns and operates Cuba Libre, serves on the board of directors for CORE so it is a cause close to his heart. Since its inception in 2004, CORE has raised over \$2M to help over 165 children from families across the industry and the country (www.coregives.org).

During the competition, eight of the city's leading mixologists will create a cocktail using one specific brand of rum from one of the following categories: white, añejo, spiced, flavored, 100 percent sugar



cane, or dark. An expert panel of judges, to include award-winning mixologist Todd Thrasher and Wine, Spirits & Lifestyle writer Kelly Magyarics, will sample the libations. Attendees of the event will also have an opportunity to cast their votes after sampling each of the competing cocktails. Three prizes will be awarded: \$400 for the grand prize and \$200 for runner-up (selected by the judges) and \$200 for the popular vote. Tickets are priced at \$40 per person and can be purchased online at: www.cocktailnation.com.

Eat Up and Fight For Children, too!

The first-ever Fight For Children Week kicks off September 25-29

with special offers and promotions from restaurants in Washington, D.C. Proceeds from the promotions will go directly to Fight For Children, a D.C.-based nonprofit whose mission is to ensure that all kids in the city, especially those in the highest need areas, receive a quality early education and a solid foundation for future success. "We know from experience that real, sustainable change is possible when our community comes together," said Keith Gordon, president and CEO of Fight For Children. Restaurant options are listed below. For more information, please visit www.fightforchildren.org.

- Month of September: A portion of the proceeds from the sale of the Pie of The Month at Joe's Seafood Prime Steak and Crab will be donated.
- Week of September 24-30: All Washington, D.C. Taylor Gourmet

locations will donate proceeds from the sale of their cookies.

- Monday, September 25: The Dupont Circle location of Cava will donate 10 percent of every sale from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Fight for Children must be mentioned at check-out.
- Wednesday, September 26: & pizza locations in Chinatown, Dupont Circle, and Columbia

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Editor's Note:

If you, your restaurant, or someone in the industry is doing something good for others in the region, we will try to include it in FSM News. Email your ideas to Lisa Keathley, lisafoodmag@gmail.com.



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