



Juan Rivera

Chef / GM Updates:

Juan Rivera is now executive chef at the **Barcelona Wine Bar** on 14th Street, NW. He was previously at Barcelona Wine Bar in Reston, Virginia. Rivera replaces NYC chef Alex Ureña. Joel Hatton is now executive chef at **Cafe Saint-Ex** on 14th Street, NW. He was previously at **Shaw's Tavern** and **Leopold's Kafe**.

Brandon Anderson is the new wine director at **Charlie Palmer Steak** on Capitol Hill, replacing Nadine Brown. He was previously at **Fiola Mare** in Georgetown. George Rodrigues replaces Austin Fausett at executive chef at **Proof** in Penn Quarter. He was previously executive chef at **Schlow Restaurant Group**, heading the culinary programs at **Tico**, **The Riggsby**, **Conosci**, and **Calle Cinco**.

Bryan Moscatello is new executive chef at **The Oval Room**, replacing John Melfi. Bryan was previously at another Knightsbridge Restaurant, 701, in Penn Quarter.

St Regis, Washington, D.C. reveals a new restaurant later this month, **Alhambra**, featuring modern Mediterranean with French influence. It's orchestrated by new chef, Sébastien Giannini.

Poki District will open a restaurant in Georgetown Square (where **Not**



Winter Food and Fun!

January's Metro Washington Winter Restaurant Week was a grand success as eateries across the DMV, including **Joselito** and **Osteria Morini**, offered some delicious specialties and libations. Pictured at left, **Joselito** proprietor **Javier Candon**; (above) a group of diners at **Osteria Morini**; and (right) **Andalusian bread pudding** dessert from **Joselito**.



Photos by Joanna Heaney

Your Average Joe's is) in Bethesda. The Bethesda store is slated to open in late spring or early summer, with another one planned for Gaithersburg in Rio Washingtonian Center.

The second location of **Falafel Inc.** is slated to open at The Wharf in Q3 2018, across from **Anthem**. Georgetown is home to the first Falafel Inc. It's a cause-related operation, started by Ahmad Ashkar, that supports refugees. The restaurant donates money to feed a refugee for a day, based on customer receipts. Tysons Corner is a targeted future Falafel Inc. location, where Ashkar plans to fulfill another part

of his mission — to hire refugees as employees.

Ashok Bajaj of Knightsbridge Restaurant Group is granting **Bibiana** a total make-over. This includes a new chef and menu. Loris Navone will take over the chef position. The native Italian previously worked at **Casa Tua** in Miami.

On the Calendar:

The Capital Area Food Bank's **Blue Jeans Ball** returns to the Marriott Marquis on April 8. Events DC's **Embassy Chef Challenge** returns in May during the city's International Cultural Awareness Month. Embassy

chefs from around the world will compete for the coveted golden pineapple. ZooFari is recruiting restaurants for its May 17 **Dine for Wildlife** event to help support the Smithsonian's National Zoo. On that date, more than 3,500 guests will enjoy food and drink from area restaurants, vintners, and breweries on zoo grounds.

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