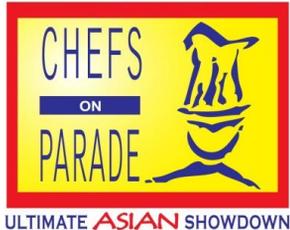


2013



19 March 2013,

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35,000 visitors throng to COP 2013: 35% more than COP 2011!

present and sell their products through the help of COP, Trade Net, the Department of Agriculture, Agri Aqua Network and the Organic Producers Trade Association. Gerard Papillon of Pamora Farm remarked, "(COP 2013) was the first time so many organic and small producers had the opportunity to showcase their artisanal products to the professionals. This is a good start and we should have more chances like this."

International 'flavor'

COP 2013 gathered several chefs who traveled from other countries to Manila to share their knowledge with Filipino food enthusiasts. These international chefs were honored with certificates of appreciation at the closing ceremonies held on March 3. Those who flew in just for COP included British chef Alan Palmer; New York-based Filipino Alex Dino; Singapore-based Emmanuel Stroobant; Belgium-based Ludo de Kok, Benny Vervaeck, and Stefane Aerts; Jerome Lacresonniere of the Ducasse Institute in Paris; Master Butcher Raphael Ramirez from Australia; Italians Simone Murru and Giovanni Abbo; and COP 2013 Chairman of the Board of Judges Kurt Pozatto who flew from Thailand. Some of them were first-time visitors to Manila.

The foreign chefs were impressed with COP's world-class standard. Chef Jerome Lacresonniere said, "Wow, I never imagined you would have an event like this." Moreover, he compared Chefs on Parade to the prestigious Bocuse d'Or biennial chef championship held in Lyon, France, "in terms of preparation and quality of production."

Chef Emmanuel, a second-time guest at COP, thanked the Organizing Committee for inviting him again and paid tribute to Chairman Bartholomi and his hard-working team. Chef Emmanuel said "It is such a pleasure to be with you guys. You are putting a lot of work with passion... Our profession (as chefs) is a real brotherhood."

There were also teams from neighboring ASEAN countries who took part in the Asian Market Basket competition. The Dusit Thani College Thailand team that won the gold medal, together with silver medalist Mayfield Hotel & Resort Korea, said they enjoyed COP 2013. They attested that the event is "as good and as well organized as the Singapore and Hong Kong shows."



FEBRUARY 28 TO MARCH 3, 2013



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