

City of Chicago



R2017-225

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:

3/29/2017

Sponsor(s):

Emanuel (Mayor)

Type:

Resolution

Title:

Congratulations extended to Frontera Grill and Rick Bayless

on 30th anniversary

Committee(s) Assignment:

RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS, The Members of this Chamber are pleased to congratulate renowned restaurateur Rick Bayless on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of his award-winning restaurant, Frontera Grill; and
 - WHEREAS, Mr. Bayless was born and raised in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and
- **WHEREAS**, From an early age, Mr. Bayless had a taste for the restaurant business. His parents owned and operated a barbecue restaurant in Oklahoma City called the Hickory House; and
- WHEREAS, His parents instilled in their children a desire for excellence. Mr. Bayless enrolled at the University of Oklahoma, where he studied Spanish, and Latin American Culture. Following graduation, he enrolled at the University of Michigan, where he did doctoral work in Anthropological Linguistics. Mr. Bayless' brother, Skip Bayless, graduated from Vanderbilt University and went on to become a well-known sports journalist and television personality; and
- WHEREAS, Following his educational endeavors, Mr. Bayless hosted a 26-part PBS television series called "Cooking Mexican" in 1978 and 1979; and
- WHEREAS, Later, Mr. Bayless, along with his wife, Deann, moved to Mexico, where he wrote his first book, "Authentic Mexican: Regional Cooking from the Heart of Mexico"; and
- WHEREAS, Mr. Bayless continued his professional relationship with PBS with his award-winning program: "Mexico: One Plate at a Time"; and
- WHEREAS, On August 19, 2009, Mr. Bayless was crowned champion of the first season of Top Chef Masters on the Bravo network, beating out a number of noted chefs. For his victory, Mr. Bayless took home the top prize of \$110,000; and
- WHEREAS, In May of 2010, Mr. Bayless was honored to be the guest chef at the White House State Dinner honoring Mexican President Felipe Calderon and his wife, Margarita Zavala; and
- WHEREAS, Mr. Bayless is also an accomplished author, having written numerous books in the culinary arts; and
- **WHEREAS**, In 2012 he received an Emmy nomination for Outstanding Lifestyle/Culinary Host for season 8 of "Mexico: One Plate at a Time"; and
 - WHEREAS, Mr. Bayless currently has 10 restaurants throughout the United States; and
 - WHEREAS, In 2012, Mr. Bayless was inducted into the Culinary Hall of Fame; and
- WHEREAS, Rick and Deann Bayless opened their first restaurant, Frontera Grill, in January 1987. The restaurant is located at 445 North Clark Street in the heart of River North; and
- WHEREAS, Frontera Grill has received well-deserved accolades for its fresh and inventive approach to Mexican cuisine since its opening. In 2007 the James Beard Foundation selected Frontera Grill for its "Outstanding Restaurant" award, given to the best restaurant in the United

States. Also, Frontera Grill was ranked third-best casual dining restaurant in the world by the International Herald Tribune; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this twenty-ninth day of March, 2017, do hereby congratulate Rick Bayless on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of his world-renowned restaurant, Frontera Grill; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Rick Bayless with our good wishes for his continued success in the culinary arts.



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL MAYOR

March 29, 2017

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith a congratulatory resolution concerning the Frontera Grill and Rick Bayless.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Mayor