



Competition Rules

1. You can begin set-up on Saturday, March 28, 2026, at 8:00 am- 9:30 am. Festival 10:00 am- 4:00 pm.
2. Cook space will be assigned, first come, first serve. The tent must be flame-retardant. You must bring your table, chairs, cooking equipment, and tablecloths. You must turn in your insurance and business license information to info@foodfromthesoulfestival.com when you register.
3. All entry fees must be in by February 1, 2026. All entries received after this date will not be refunded. The Inspection application must be completed online, and funds must be paid at registration.
4. Therefore, under NO circumstance's water/alcohol should be sold, given away, or otherwise distributed at the festival without our permission. Additionally, drug/alcohol and other offensive paraphernalia will not be allowed by the Vendors.
5. **Each food vendor will have a sample plate, \$1-\$5. This must be the FIRST THING ON YOUR MENU. You get one warning, if you do not comply, we will shut you down. You must dispose of your potable water or grease on the grounds.**
6. All vendors will be responsible for collecting and reporting all Florida Sales Tax, where applicable. Form DR1 from the Dept. of Revenue should be completed before the event. All vendors are responsible for acquiring all necessary permits with the State of Florida required by law.
7. The food tents in addition to the checklist will need a barrier between the patrons and the cooking appliances, like a table or counter.
8. Any wood fired smoker will be required to have a water extinguisher or a water hose connected to a water source and nearby as well as a 2A10BC commercial fire extinguisher on site.
9. All food vendors must provide business license and insurance.
10. Temporary public food service establishments and vendors must have the proper licensing to be a vendor at the event. (THE ORGANIZATION IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING



Competition Rules

TEMPORARY PERMITS FEES FOR VENDORS). You must have a license & insurance. Please email them to info@foodfromthesoulfestival.com

11. There will only be ten contestants in each category, except Best Dessert and Spiciest competition.
12. There shall be no smoking by persons preparing, cooking, or serving foods.
13. Food booths must always maintain an elegant and clean appearance. FFTS officials will periodically inspect to ensure these rules are adhered to.
14. Hair restraints must be worn, and hands must be kept clean. Disposable gloves are also recommended. We strongly recommend that at least one person (not serving or preparing food) be designated to handle all money.
15. Provide ice scoop(s) for handling ice. Provide disposable paper towels or napkins for customer use.
16. All vendors must obtain all necessary permits required by the State of Florida or be subject to paying a fee to a health inspector on the day of the event.
- 17. Food turn-in times will be between 12:00 pm- 2:00 pm on March 28, 2026. You will get a time when your group turns in their entries.**
18. Sandbags or water ballasts must weigh everything down. Weights for tent legs must be at least 40 lbs. each. Weights must be securely attached to the canopy roof and canopy leg separately. Ropes and straps should be high quality. Bungee or rubber straps are prohibited. Weights must be on the ground and not dangling. Weights and lines must not pose a hazard and be visible. Items that make acceptable weights: 5-gallon bucket full of water, sand, or concrete; 4" PVC pipe at least 36" long filled with concrete; large commercially available tent weights; sandbags or salt bags 40lbs or heavier.
19. For maximum safety, tents should be secured when put up and brought down as soon as weight is removed. Do not leave unsecured tents at any time.
20. Cord covers (yellow jackets) must be over any electrical extension cord or water hose crossing any public pathway.



Competition Rules

21. Plywood and tarps must be placed under any heat source, including grilling equipment, fryers, warmers, etc.
22. No glass is allowed in the venue. The exception to the rule allows back-of-house joint servers to pour from the glass into plastic cups keeping the glass in a secured location so that it does not end up all over the venue. Glass bottles are to be contained in cardboard boxes once emptied.
23. All cook sites must have a current Class K fire extinguisher is required for any cooking that causes grease-laden vapor.
24. Propane must be connected by a hose a minimum of 5' in length and away from the flame source.
25. Charcoal grills are permitted. Cooking equipment, such as BBQ grills, deep fryers, etc. that requires outdoor use should stay out of the reach of children and away from pedestrian traffic areas.
26. You must bring your own personal generators. There isn't any electricity at this venue. Please give the complete list of all electrical equipment and their voltage and watts.
27. Any tents used to cook food must be fire retardant and have proper fire-resistant documentation or labels.
28. The food tents (must be fire retardant) in addition to the checklist will need a barrier between the patrons and the cooking appliances, like a table or counter. Please, email us your insurance and business licenses, info@foodfromthesoulfestival.com.
29. No Styrofoam is permitted for use at venue.
30. Gray water must be disposed of properly—no pouring into the storm drains, flower beds, and air-conditioned lawns.
31. All event equipment must be out of the venue by the close of business of the designated load-out date.
32. ITEMS PROHIBITED AT FESTIVAL: No person shall bring into the festival or possess, set off, or otherwise cause to explode discharge or any firecrackers, torpedoes, rockets, cannons, or



Competition Rules

other fireworks or explosives of or containing flammable material or any substance, compound, mixture, or article which, in conjunction with any other substance or compound, may explode, discharge, or burn. NO GLASS BOTTLES, BEER, WINE, OR ALCOHOL AND ABSOLUTELY NO FIREARMS ARE PERMITTED AT the "Food From The Soul festival. No pets and/or animals will not be permitted access to "Food From The Soul festival: no skateboards, roller-skates/ inline skates, or scooters.

FFTS – DISCLOSURE / LIABILITY POLICY

FOOD FROM THE SOUL FESTIVAL (FFTS) does not and will not provide liability insurance against the protection of persons, vendors, entertainers, merchants, organizations, spectators or others who participate in our event to be held on Saturday, March 28, 2026, at the Carrollwood Cultural Center, 4537 Lowell Rd., Tampa, FL 33618

LIABILITY DISCLAIMER & RESPONSIBILITY CONTRACT

In consideration of participating in the Food From The Soul Festival hosted by KVJINC, LLC, on March 28, 2026, at the Carrollwood Cultural Acres, 4537 Lowell Rd., Tampa

Florida, 33618, _____ a duly authorized representative _____, do hereby release

and forever hold harmless Food From The Soul Festival hosted by KVJINC LLC, dba KVJINC PR. and all actions, causes of actions, claims and demands for, upon or by reason of any damage, loss or injury, which from hence may be experienced by me or my organization as a result of participating in the festival or any events of Food From The Soul Festival hosted by KVJINC, LLC dba KVJINC PR.



Competition Rules

FFTS will not be liable for loss of property, limited or loss of sales and/or performance due to flood, fire, riots, and strikes, shortages of material, order of government, failure of transportation, acts of God/nature or other causes beyond our control. This release extends to, applies to, covers and includes all known, unpredictable, disclosed, unforeseen, unknown, unanticipated and unsuspected injuries, damages, losses and liabilities (including attorney fees and court costs) and the consequences thereof, notwithstanding the consequences of any federal, state, local or territorial law or statute to the contrary. Such provisions are hereby expressly waived. It is further understood and agreed, that my participation or involvement in FFTS hosted by KVJINC, LLC is not to be construed as an admission of liability or the assumption of any responsibility by FFTS for the personal acts or omissions by me or those of my organization and shall not be a waiver of FFTS right to enforce any terms, power, right or option in the future.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY SIGNING BELOW, I _____ (print name)

ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD AND AGREE TO ALL OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE VENDOR APPLICATION FORM AND AGREEMENT, VENDOR RULES AND REGULATIONS, AND TAMPA BAY PARK RULES AND REGULATIONS, AND THAT FAILURE TO ABIDE BY ANY OF THESE TERMS, CONDITIONS, RULES, AND/OR REGULATIONS SHALL PROHIBIT MY PARTICIPATING IN EVENT. BY SIGNING BELOW, I

_____ (print name) FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD AND AGREE TO ALL OF THE TERMS OF THE RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, AND THAT BY SIGNING BELOW, I AM VOLUNTARILY GIVING UP SUBSTANTIAL LEGAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO SUE THE COMPANY.

Signed: _____

Printed Name: _____

Entity (Company): _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

_____ Date: _____

By signing below, I acknowledge, and agree, and understand that there is no refund on payments or deposit for my vendor space, without exception. My vendor space is as is, where is, and is without any implied warranties or guarantees or exclusivity, whatsoever, and I have read and understood all the terms and conditions of this vendor application form and agreement, and that I am agreeing to these terms and condition freely and voluntarily. On behalf of my heirs, executor, administrators and assigns to indemnify and hold harmless Food From The Soul/KVJINC LLC, and



Competition Rules

all members, officers, agents, workers or volunteers of Food From The Soul/KVJINC LLC, hold harmless from and against all actions, claims, demands and liabilities, loss damages and expense of whatever kind or nature, including attorney fees, which may at any time be incurred by reason of my participation in Tampa Caribbean Festival, Inc.

Name of Organization: _____ Date: _____

Name and Title of Agent (Print): _____

Signature: _____

Witness: _____

