



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 15, 2024

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Mississippi Egg Marketing Board, Mississippi Poultry Association, Mississippi State University Poultry Science Department, and Mississippi Beef Council Announce Winners of the 2024 Dixie National Rodeo Days Crêpe Showdown

4-H Students from Forrest, Hancock and Oktibbeha Counties Win Dixie National Rodeo Days Crêpe Showdown

STATE FAIRGROUNDS, Miss. – The Mississippi Egg Marketing Board, Mississippi Poultry Association, Mississippi State University Poultry Science Department, and the Mississippi Beef Council are pleased to announce the winners of the third annual Dixie National Rodeo Days Crêpe Showdown. Several Mississippi 4-H youth competed in the event as part of Mississippi 4-H Day during the 2024 Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo on Saturday, February 10.

Placing first with a Mixed Berry Cheesecake crêpe from Oktibbeha County was Jameria Carter. Placing second was Ezra Cuevas of Hancock County with a Seafood crêpe. Placing third with a XL Steak Dinner crêpe, was Heidi Hood from Forrest County. Receiving the Best of Beef award was tied between Lydia's Cheesy Beefy crêpe by Lydia Carter of Oktibbeha County and Heidi Hood of Forrest County with a XL Steak Dinner crêpe.

The contestants placing first, second and third were awarded cash prizes by the Mississippi Poultry Association in amounts of \$75, \$50 and \$25 respectively, and a cash prize of \$25 was awarded by the Mississippi Beef Council for the Best of Beef crêpe. All contestants received a home cooking toolkit that included an apron, skillet, whisk and spatula.

Eleven contestants from around the state competed in the crêpe showdown, presenting their entry to a panel of judges within 60 minutes. Also competing were Andrew Bragg, James Bragg, Clara Kate Reed and Raylee Reed, all from Rankin County; John Clayton Kitchens and Joy Kitchens, both from Lauderdale County; and Kylee Tomlinson from Oktibbeha County. Contestants were provided the necessary tools to prepare their crepe but brought "unusual" or "unique" ingredients from home.

Mississippi Egg Marketing Board President Ryn Laster said, "It's amazing to see these young people use their talents so creatively when cooking. The judges had a tough decision choosing the winners." Associate professor and Clinical Director in the Department of Preventive Medicine at UMMC Dr. Josie Bidwell, Nutritionist Rebecca Turner, and Mississippi Poultry Association's Event Coordinator Lauren Fortenberry served as judges for the cook-off. Serving as the Mistress of Ceremonies was Ryn Laster, President of the Mississippi Egg Marketing Board and Director of Food Safety and Animal Welfare at Cal-Maine Foods, Inc.

Visit www.MSEggMarketing.com for great tasting egg dishes brought to you by the Incredible Egg. For more information about the Mississippi Egg Marketing Board, contact Jennifer Thompson at msegg@mdac.ms.gov.



The Mississippi Egg Marketing Board, Mississippi Poultry Association, Mississippi State University Poultry Science Department, and Mississippi Beef Council with the 2024 Dixie National Rodeo Days Crêpe Showdown contestants.
Pictured (L-R): Judge Lauren Fortenberry; Mistress of Ceremonies Dr. Ryn Laster; Neely Turner; Judge Rebecca Turner; Contestants Joy Kitchens, John Clayton Kitchens, James Edward Bragg, Ezra Cuevas, Andrew Bragg, Raylee Reed, Clara Kate Reed, Heidi Hood, Lydia Carter, Kylee Tomlinson, Jameria Carter; Judge Dr. Josie Bidwell; and Crêpe Showdown Event Director and MSU Extension Instructor Tannah Christensen.