

# SUSHI MASTERS

C O M P E T I T I O N

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## **BAY AREA CHEF WINS SPIRITED SUSHI SHOWDOWN**

*Sausalito chef takes hard earned victory in California SushiMasters Regional*

**SAN DIEGO, CA---** Chef Hyun Min Suh claimed two gold medals and emerged victorious in this evening's SushiMasters California Regional Competition in San Diego.

Suh, Chef of Sushi Ran Restaurant in Sausalito, took best of show honors, after winning a gold medal for his Signature Roll and Morikomi Plate. He earned the right to compete in the SushiMasters Finals Competition in Los Angeles this September 20.

"Sushi is primarily fish and rice, and this time I focused on the rice in my dishes," Suh said. "I'm very honored and very happy."

Other California chef participants in the competition included Atsushi Okawara, Sanraku Four Seasons, San Francisco, Tomohiko Nakamura, Takami Sushi & Robata, Los Angeles, Katsuhiko Tamashiro, Toshi Sushi, Los Angeles, Akifusa Tonai, Kyo-ya, San Francisco and Bob Blumer, Food Network "Glutton for Punishment" program.

Blumer, who was awarded two bronze medals, said he was impressed with his competition.

"It was pretty challenging and pretty intimidating," he said. "There were some insanely creative rolls here with beautiful presentation and decoration skills."

The SushiMasters California Regional Competition was held in conjunction with the 2009 Beer and Sake Festival, a charity event for the Japan Society of San Diego and Tijuana.

The California Rice Commission established SushiMasters in 2005, to highlight

the growing interest in sushi and showcase the important role of rice in this and other world cuisine.

Photos and additional information on the competition is available by contacting Jim Morris of the California Rice Commission at 916/387-2264 or E-mail at [jmorris@calrice.org](mailto:jmorris@calrice.org).