

The 2014 Best Chefs Awards

Sara Deseran and Rebecca Flint Marx | Photo: Dan Escobar | July 25, 2014

Meet the newest inductees to *San Francisco's Best Chefs Academy*.



(l-r) Evan and Sarah Rich, Dave McLean

(1 of 4)



A husband-and-wife dream team, an impressively hirsute pastry genius, a Deadhead turned beer master, a soft-spoken up-and-comer, and a restaurateur in perpetual motion. San Francisco's esteemed Best Chefs Academy has voted (see the full list of electors at bottom), and this year's winners are an eclectic bunch that have two key traits in common: serious determination and excellent taste.

BEST CHEFS

Evan and Sarah Rich ([Rich Table](#))

In the case of packed-from-day-one Rich Table, two heads make a better restaurant than one. The couple's quirky sensibilities show up in dishes like bucatini with pork sausage and peaches, and scallops paired with eggplant, honey, and Thai basil. The good-humored duo, who fell in love while cooking at Bouley in New York, have two children under the age of four. Insane? Perhaps. But considering that last year they made Bon Appétit's list of the top 50 restaurants in the United States, this whole family thing seems to be working.

Three Burning Questions

Sarah, is it true that you were Evan's boss at Bouley?

SR: I was, though we weren't allowed to be on the same schedule or talk—or make eye contact.

What do you eat when you eat alone?

ER: A quesadilla with ketchup.

What's the most delicious dish you've eaten recently?

SR: The strawberry icebox pie at Strawn's, a restaurant in Shreveport, Louisiana, where I grew up.