

Get a taste of Foodie Culture: Great Tastes Culinary Expo

By Laura Greenback

Feast on food know-how at the Great Tastes culinary expo.

On February 23, over 2,000 people will take over four floors of the Tremont Grand Hotel to learn about everything from how to pair beef and cheese, to how to set the mood with food.

Top chefs and experts from across the nation will gather to teach seminars, give demonstrations and cook up samples for participants.

Celebrity chefs from the Food Network, like Warren Brown, and local experts, like Clipper City Brewing Co. founder Hugh Sisson, will share their expertise.

“If you like food and drinks, this is the place to go,” said Greg Nivens, president of Moorea Marketing, the company that is organizing the event.

“It should be a place where people can come and really embrace food. It’s for foodies like myself, and people who want to learn more about this stuff,” Nivens said.

Many of the experts who are hosting seminars will place an emphasis on making food and wine culture accessible to beginners.

“My purpose is to provide an unintimidating forum for women to learn about wine,” said Monyka Berrocosa, a wine educator who is leading a seminar called “Wine 101 for Women (and the men who love them)” at the event.

“Wine is a segue into the other things in life for women. It’s a forum for women to empower themselves,” Berrocosa said.

Berrocosa said she thinks of the Great Tastes expo as a way for Baltimore to dream big about food and wine.

“We are bringing a larger-than-life quality to the city,” Berrocosa said.

The Info:

2008 Great Tastes Show

Feb. 23, 11 am-6 pm

\$20-\$50

Tremont Grand Hotel

225 N. Charles St., Downtown

www.greattastesshow.com