



Directory of winners for Best of the Southwest



BEST CHEF

BOUN MALAPHONH, ERIC OLIPHANT AND JEFF SAMSON OF MALIA MEDITERRANEAN BISTRO

These three work as a team to improvise the featured menu with whatever fresh food is available:

"We bring a lot of passion. We love food. We love the origin of food... We get a lot of foodies in here, people that really respect great food." — *Jeff Samson, chef*

"We taste everything, make sure the right taste goes out. If it doesn't, we make it, remake it. If we don't like it, we start over." — *Boun Malaphonh, chef*

"We try to put the same type of love and care into everything that we really do make. And hopefully it translates to the customer as we put it up... Everybody has a hand in it, pretty much a hand in everything as far as our menu goes. We all give and take to all of it." — *Eric Oliphant, chef*