

PRESS RELEASE

COCONUT BAY PASTRY CHEF RETURNS FROM INTERNSHIP AT JOHNSON & WALES UNIVERSITY

St Lucia's "Cake Boss" - Coconut Bay Pastry Chef Ronald Estephane returned to the island last weekend after participating in an internship at Johnson & Wales University, College of Culinary Arts at the North Miami Campus in the United States. The internship was awarded as part of Chef Ronald's prize package as the winner of the inaugural National Research & Development Foundation (NRDF) and SLHTA Independence Cake Challenge held in February 2015.

During his stint at Johnson & Wales, Chef Ronald gained fresh insights and improved his skills in "cutting edge" techniques and methods in pastry making. His internship included exposure to new techniques in coloring chocolate, manipulating dough and construction of chocolate gift packages.

Here at Coconut Bay we encourage our talented food and beverage team to strive to elevate our cuisine on every level," says Chef Purmessur, Executive Chef at Coconut Bay Beach Resort & Spa. "To have Chef Ronald win the Johnson & Wales University internship not only furthers his culinary skill but is a benefit to our whole team as the student becomes the teacher sharing what he has learned with us. I predict our guests will be enjoying some delightful new creations at our Chocolate Extravaganza and otherwise".

Johnson & Wales University is a private institution that was founded in 1914. It has a total undergraduate enrollment of 9,401. The institution's mission statement reads: "*Johnson & Wales University – an exceptional education that inspires professional success and lifelong personal and intellectual growth*". The University's culinary college boasts of an experience that promises to "*change the way the world eats*". Through its culinary college the University's embraces an approach which seeks to combine all its programs in the culinary field with the craft and art of cooking with science and nutrition, management skills, global citizenship and a variety of work experience opportunities that sets its graduates apart from the competition.

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Coconut Bay welcomes Chef Ronald back and looks forward to him continuing to master his skills and share his new abilities with the rest of the resort pastry team while providing tasty treats for all of our guests to enjoy.

Ends/CBay PR