



# APRIL THOMPSON

EXECUTIVE CHEF/OWNER



\*\*\* EXPERIENCE THE FLAVOR OF CREATIVITY \*\*\*

April Thompson has always danced to the beat of her own drum. Although born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio, she knew that her big personality, her ambition would take her father than even she could ever imagine. After all, she is living her dream of being a chef, traveling and helping others. April has always been outspoken, aggressive and

driven while being a nurturing, sensitive caretaker at the same time. Although unsure of exactly where she would land in the culinary world, she knew that she would do it her way and by any means necessary.

While balancing the task of being a personal chef for high profile professionals, top players in the NFL, NBA, MLB and several entertainment personalities, she is also the author of three Colors. In addition, she is the owner of Sweet Chicks Custom Cupcakes, Canine Couture – an organic pet food line and Tiny Tots Gourmet Baby Food. Over the past year April has also linked up with others in the culinary industry to start a mobile cooking service called The Culinary Mafia.

April is a recurring guest chef personality on Fox 8 News, News Channel 5, a variety of internet cooking and sports shows and is recognized as an exemplary volunteer in her community. She is also a keynote speaker, filling seminars at NASA, various colleges and a host of health and wellness events around the world. April was also the first African American chef featured in the Quicken Loans/Aramark Launch Test Kitchen for the 2017 NBA Playoffs and Finals. She is an Inaugural Council Committee member for Cleveland Eats Culinary Festival and holds a seat on the Advisory Committee for the Cuyahoga Community College Hospitality Management Program. She is a Chef Partner with both Ronald McDonald House of Cleveland and Tri-C Community College. Her no nonsense approach to both her business and personal life has carved her place in the male dominated field of Culinary Arts.

After finishing up her Environmental Sciences studies at Cleveland State University, April decided that a lifetime in a laboratory was not for her. Endless jobs in corporate America had rendered her lethargic and unsatisfied. Always the entrepreneur, her personal chef/catering business, Wild Thyme, was growing and the jobs were getting much larger than the basic events that she had begun with. The stress of catering a large New Years Eve party in 2004 led her to question whether or not she had made a huge mistake by changing professions. The following day, a feature article in The Cleveland Plain Dealer, followed by several calls inquiring about personal chef services confirmed that April had made the wisest decision of her life thus far.

Another side of April is her giving spirit. She is the founder of Shoulder To Shoulder, a Cleveland based organization that provides healthy weekly meals for the less fortunate, sponsors families and shelters during the holidays and provides nutrition based education for inner city children thru cooking, social etiquette classes and growing indoor herbal gardens. With all of her accolades, her proudest accomplishment is simply being a mom. Her daughter graduated in May, 2016 from The Ohio State University with a Bachelors of Science in

Human Ecology. She is currently in pursuit of her Juris Doctorate in Public Administration and Civil Rights Law.

When asked how she finds the time to handle all of her business ventures, clients, motherhood and charity work, April proudly replies; "I'm sure I don't handle it perfectly but the best thing about my life is that there's no "right or wrong" way to live it. No one has ever been ME so I get to create the blueprint." With a never ending hunger for success and an energy level that would render others lifeless, the future is looking exceptionally bright for Ms. Thompson.