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American Royal Announces 2023 Barbecue Hall of Fame Finalists

Ten nominated barbecue enthusiasts will be considered for induction into the Barbecue Hall of Fame

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (May 8, 2023) – The American Royal Barbecue Hall of Fame[®], an organization dedicated to recognizing, documenting and preserving the heritage of barbecue, has announced the top ten finalists contending for four positions on the 2023 Hall of Fame:

- Byron Chism, Freeport, Fla.
- Steve Grady, Dudley, N.C.
- David Klose, Houston, Texas
- Fast Eddy Maurin, Kansas City, Mo.
- Roger Mooking, Edmonton, Alberta
- Flora Payne, Memphis, Tenn.
- Dave Raymond, Chicago, Ill.
- Malcom Reed, Hernando, Miss.
- Donny Teel, Sperry, Okla.
- Darren Warth, Des Moines, Iowa

A total of 90 nominations from around the world were evaluated by the Barbecue Hall of Fame nominating committee to select these finalists who, through extraordinary achievement and service, have made significant contributions to the barbecue community.

As part of its mission, the Barbecue Hall of Fame aims to educate others about barbecue's history and traditions while also honoring those individuals who have made an outstanding impact on the world of barbecue.

On May 24, 2023, the American Royal will announce the inductee class for 2023, including four living Hall of Fame inductees from this year's finalists, three Legacy inductees who have passed and the group of individuals being recognized with this year's Impact Award.

The 2023 inductees will be recognized during the 43rd American Royal World Series of Barbecue® planned for Sept. 27-Oct. 1, 2023, in Kansas City, Kansas. For more information about the American Royal Barbecue Hall of Fame, visit barbecuehalloffame.com.

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About the American Royal Association

A Kansas City tradition since 1899, the American Royal is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization whose mission is to be the nation's leader for food and agriculture education, events, and engagement. The American Royal provides opportunities for youth and adults from around the world to engage in high-quality events and experiences, including nationally competitive livestock shows, the world's largest barbecue competition, regional and national equine shows, youth and professional rodeos, and elementary and secondary education outreach. Support from partners, members, and volunteers help the American Royal achieve its vision of a world where food and agriculture are celebrated, and all generations are committed to its future.