

FOOD SUMMIT AGENDA

..... APRIL 26 | 3RD FLOOR - ROYAL PALM | 8:00 AM - 5:15 PM

 **8:00 - 11:00 AM | REGISTRATION & PAN DULCE**

 **8:30 - 9:30 AM | OPENING REMARKS**

The Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Resolution, the USDA Equity Commission Report, Regional Food Business Centers, and the power of community action.

- **Speakers:** USDA Equity Commission Designated Federal Officer Cecilia Hernandez | Dr. Alexis Racelis - UTRGV | USDA Under Secretary for Food and Nutrition Stacy Dean

 **9:30 - 10:45 AM | SHARING EXPERIENCES: HOW YOUTH ENVISION OUR FOOD SYSTEM**

In this panel, students discuss their experiences with farm to school activities, share ideas for improving the food system, and discuss their hopes for the future.

- **Moderator:** Mackenzie Feldman
- **Speakers:** USDA Deputy Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics Sanah Baig | Savannah West | Apolonio Flores | Emiliy Ortega | Olivia Starkweather

 **11:00 AM - 12:15 PM | WHO HAS HEALTHY FOOD?: EXPLORING FOOD ACCESS, CONSUMPTION, AND HEALTH**

What are the impacts of food insecurity and fresh food deserts on our health and well-being? In this talk, leading experts discuss creative solutions to closing the fresh food access gap.

- **Moderator:** Elaine Hernandez
- **Speakers:** Michelle Vernone | Diana Padilla | Lisa Mitchell-Bennett | USDA Under Secretary for Food and Nutrition Stacy Dean

 **12:15 - 1:00 PM | BUFFET LUNCH**

 **1:00 - 2:15 PM | SUCCESSFUL FOOD PRODUCTION: CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT FOR THRIVING FARM BUSINESSES**

In this panel, experts discuss the ways food production is helped or hindered by local, state, and federal policies and initiatives and the economic markets created therein.

- **Moderator:** Robert Maggiani
- **Speakers:** Jeffrey Kleypas | Stephanie Kasper | Dr. Ahlshia Shipley | Dr. Art Rodriguez

 **2:15 - 3:30 PM | FOOD WORKERS, THRIVE!**

How do we promote upward economic mobility for farm workers? Leading national experts discuss the nuances and solutions to ensuring fair wages, good livelihoods, and great food for all.

- **Moderator:** Dr. Alexis Racelis
- **Speakers:** Arturo Rodriguez (UFW) | Elizabeth Marquez | Maria Elena Ortiz | Dr. Lisa Ramirez

 **3:30 - 4:00 PM | BREAK**

 **4:00 - 5:15 PM | USDA Q&A: STACKING RESOURCES FOR MAXIMUM BENEFIT**

Hear from USDA & the Rio Grande Colonias Regional Food Business Center to learn about the various funding sources, technical assistance, and opportunities available.

- **Moderator:** Dr. Alexis Racelis
- **Speakers:** Valerie Venicia | Sue Beckwith | Tania Chavez | Kate Fitzgerald

April 26

FOOD SUMMIT

MOVIE

APRIL 26 | CINE EL REY | 6:00 - 9:00 PM

 6:00 - 9:00 PM | COMMON GROUND SCREENING

The film Common Ground has its South Texas Premiere followed by a fireside chat with Jacqueline Folacci and Ray Archuleta. Snacks and drinks provided!

ROSARIO LAURA DONALD WOODY JASON IAN
DAWSON DERN GLOVER HARRELSON MOMOA SOMERHALDER



Saving
the planet,
one acre
at a time.

Common Ground Screening

SNACKS + DRINKS INCLUDED
APRIL 26, 2024 | 6 - 9 PM

MOVIE
SCREENING

Celebrating la
Frontera Together

CINE EL REY

COMMON GROUND

MC PETER BRADEN PRESENTS "COMMON GROUND" A REBECCA & JOSH TICKELL FILM WITH LAURA DERN, JASON MOMOA, ROSARIO DAWSON, IAN SOMERHALDER, DONALD GLOVER AND WOODY HARRELSON
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS REBECCA TICKELL, JOSH TICKELL, ERIC DILLON PRODUCED BY JOSH TICKELL, REBECCA TICKELL, JOHNNY K. HARRIS WRITTEN BY JIM FAIRCHILD, JACOB SNIDER DIRECTED BY RYAN A. NICHOLS, ANTHONY ELIASON
CASTING BY SIMON BARBERAS, JOAQUIN PILLAY COSTUME DESIGNER JAKE WEINBERG LEON BOOMELLY HAIR AND MAKEUP JENNY JAN FELICSON BASZCZYK, HILL & LANGRISH BENJAMIN JOHN PAUL BLAIRIA, HOLLY DILLON, RYLAND ENGELHART
PRODUCTION DESIGNER PAMELA GREEN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS AND RICHIANA CHINO PRODUCED BY JUAN LEONARDI, JUAN LEON, PERDIE LEVIN, MELROY AND ADAM LEVINS, CHRIS LINDSTROM, ROBYN O'BRIEN, ANNE RONEY, REGINA K. SCOLLY, IAN SOMERHALDER
EDITED BY CORINNE BORDO, PAUL KOHEN, FINIAN MAKEPEACE, CHRISTIANA MUSK, SUGAN ROCKEFELLER EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JOSH TICKELL AND REBECCA TICKELL
COURTESY OF COMMON GROUND

 CINE EL REY -
311 S 17th St,
McAllen, TX 78501



SCAN TO WATCH
THE MOVIE TRAILER

..... APRIL 27 | 3RD FLOOR - ROYAL PALM | 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

9:00 - 10:00 AM | REGISTRATION & COFFEE

10:00 - 11:00 AM | LOCAL SCHOOL FOOD PROCUREMENT

In this panel school food procurement stakeholders discuss the challenges and opportunities for getting food from farms to institutions.

- **Moderator:** Carmen Ocanas Lerma
- **Speakers:** Habraham Lopez | Bella Wood | Allen Williams

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM | FOOD AND CULTURE

Learn about the historic, cultural, and economic importance of food in the RGV and understand their impact on the future.

- **Moderator:** Jacqueline Folacci
- **Speakers:** Chef Alec Teran | Maria Leonard | Melissa Guerra

12:00 - 1:00 PM | LUNCH AND STUDENT PHOTOVOICE PROJECT

The photovoice project showcases the younger generations' take on the questions: "What do you want to change about your food system? What do you want your local food system to look like?"

1:00 - 1:30 PM | KEYNOTE

USDA Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs Jenny Moffitt, a 5th generation farmer and government leader, will deliver a keynote on the importance of community action that fosters economic growth and well-being. Under Secretary Moffitt supports the efforts taken by food system leaders in the RGV in the creation of the RGV Food Resolution.

1:30 - 2:00 PM | RIO GRANDE VALLEY FOOD RESOLUTION

Local food system leaders will present the Rio Grande Valley Food Resolution and how it will help shape the local food system.

- **Speakers:** Rocio Hernandez | Vero Dimas | Ann Millard | + other Rio Grande Valley Food Resolution members

2:00 - 3:00 PM | EQUITY GROUP EDUCATIONAL AND PARTICIPATORY EVENT

The goal of this event is to bring the community into the work that the Food Resolution Working Group has been active on to answer the question: "Where do you see the RGV Food System headed?" The event will culminate with a Food Equity Vision Statement based on community comments.