

## BIOGRAPHY

## CHEF PATRICK S I M P S O N

Chef Wenford Patrick Simpson Simpson was born in May Pen, Clarendon, grew up in St Ann where he attended the Marcus Garvey High School. Chef Patrick began cooking as a young child in St. Ann's Parish, Jamaica. In high school, he interned at Club Caribbean and was offered a job immediately after graduation. He worked in several resorts and then took his talents to the seas, working for the Royal Caribbean Cruise Line and Disney Cruise lines. After returning to the land, he settled in New York City where he took the Executive Chef position at Negril Restaurant.

Chef Patrick now delights customers at B.B. King Blues Club and Grill and the Highland Ballroom in the heart of New York City. When he isn't in the kitchen overseeing anywhere from 40 to 50 people, he's handing out samples in Times Square or giving presentations in Bloomingdales or



Chef Patrick pushes the boundaries in the kitchen, creating a truly unique dining experience born out of Caribbean spices, Southern cooking and an American flair. Each dish he creates is a work of art, not only in flavor combinations, but on the plate as well.

While customers rave about his cooking, anyone who knows the chef is captivated by his personality. True to his humble Jamaican roots, he has never forgotten the opportunities he received as a fledgling chef with his Caribbean employer, and extends the same compassionate, receptive consideration to co-workers, which turns into a strong motivation for his team.

His memorable personality and meals have brought many celebrities to sample his cooking,. When he is building a plate, though, it is done with the same conscientious attitude, regardless of the customer. He's also the star of his own culinary show, "Cook-Up with Chef Patrick" on TEMPO Network and makes additional television appearances various daytime programs.

Simpson constantly reflects on his humble beginnings, returning to Jamaica every year to share his story with school children – encouraging them to pursue their dreams as well as teaching them how to cook.

"I tell them 'You can turn it around. All that you guys are going through it's one of those things in life, but don't give up," Simpson explained.

"I get so many messages from kids saying, 'Thank you so much, you motivate me,' and these are the things aside from cooking and creating... being able to give back."

His philanthropic efforts don't stop there, the charitable chef plans to launch a culinary school in Ocho Rios, Jamaica, which will recruit underprivileged children from around the country to perfect their culinary talents and find jobs.

Pull your chair up to his table; get your knife and forks ready. You haven't seen or tasted anything yet from Chef Wenford Patrick Simpson.

In the words of Chef Patrick, Believe in yourself. Love what you do. Believe in your fate.