White House Recipe Challenge for 8-12 Year Olds

BY KATHRYN GUYLAY

o you know a child between the ages of 8 and 12 years old who would enjoy an expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., to meet the First Lady and see our nation's Capitol? Would you like to inspire in that child a sense of self-responsibility for eating healthy foods, including fresh and colorful fruits and vegetables, lean protein, whole grains and low-fat dairy? How about getting kids excited about working in the kitchen, having fun testing out their culinary skills, and taking their turn cooking? Finally, how about an opportunity for that child to become a community service-oriented member of society, empowered by the First Lady with the role of being an ambassador for health as part of an important national movement?

If the vision I have painted sparks an interest, I encourage you to visit www.Epicurious.com and, together with your child, enter the Healthy Lunchtime Challenge & Kids' "State Dinner". It is a national recipe contest designed to inspire kids to create fun, healthy and delicious recipes that meet the nutritional guidelines for MyPlate (see www. ChooseMyPlate.gov).



COURTESY PHOTO: Elena and Kathryn Guylay with Mrs. Obama at last year's Kids' State Dinner. (Elena won by submitting her 'Fiesta Casserole' recipe for the state of Idaho).