



Press Contact: Seth Hyman
Phone: 646-336-3683; Email: seth_hyman@discovery.com
*High-res images and clips available upon request

**NEW PRIMETIME SERIES *CHOCOLATE MELTDOWN: HERSHEY'S AFTER DARK*
HOSTED BY SUNNY ANDERSON
Premiering Monday, September 27th at 10pm ET/PT**

Plus, Go Behind-the-Scenes at Hersheypark with Sunny and the Judges for Chocolate Taste Tests and Additional Social Content with #HersheysAfterDark and at FoodNetwork.com

NEW YORK – August 18, 2021 – Locking skilled pastry chefs inside the famed *Hersheypark* after dark and watching them compete to create the most mind-bending chocolate showpieces is all part of the competitive fun in the new primetime series, *Chocolate Meltdown: Hershey's After Dark*. The four-episode series, produced in partnership with *Hershey's*, premieres Monday, September 27th at 10pm ET/PT and is hosted by **Sunny Anderson**, who challenges the brave and talented pastry artists to create the most mind-bending chocolate showpieces. It is part of Food Network's biggest Halloween lineup yet -- featuring **over 36 hours** of Halloween-themed programming.

"Chocolate Meltdown: Hershey's After Dark combines two of my all-time passions, going to amusement parks and creating art with food," added Anderson. "I cannot wait to share these amazing chocolate displays with viewers, featuring some of the most talented pastry chefs on the planet."

Created by Milton S. Hershey over 115 years ago, *Hersheypark* in Hershey, Pa., is a 121-acre amusement park featuring three parks in one with **more than 70 rides**, a full water park and zoo attracting families to the one-of-a-kind destination. And this September, three pastry chefs are locked inside the amusement park after-hours without a soul in sight and in each hour-long episode, they must solve clues and brave the thrilling rides to use *Hershey's* sweets for their colorful and spectacular creations before the night is over. Working at breakneck speed with the help of just an assistant within *Hershey's* largest candy store, *Chocolate World*, the competitors race against the clock as judges **Ralph Attanasia** (Food Network's *Buddy vs. Duff*) and **Maneet Chauhan** (Winner, *Tournament of Champions*) keep a watchful eye to determine who was the most successful at molding chocolate and spinning sugar into works of art. The winner of each episode earns a year's supply of *Hershey's* candy, a *Hersheypark* vacation and a cash prize.

"This brand-new series, the first ever to film overnight inside *Hersheypark* and *Hershey's Chocolate World*, is a viewer's ultimate Halloween fantasy brought to life," said Courtney White, President, Food Network and Streaming Food Content, Discovery Inc. "Our partnership with the iconic candy brand and the show's no-holds-barred access to rides, sweets, and everything Hershey, Pa. offers, makes *Chocolate Meltdown: Hershey's After Dark* an addictive new highlight to our supersized Halloween lineup."

In the premiere episode, the competitors prove themselves with inspired takes on a Creepy Crawly Carnival. After running through the park on a chilly and rainy night, the pastry artists take a spin on one of the park's most dizzying rides. Back in *Chocolate World*, a self-taught and gravity-defying cake artist quickly runs into problems, forcing them to adjust the design on the fly. Meanwhile, a sugar artist almost loses a battle against a 33-pound slab of dark chocolate, and a sculpting enthusiast uses enough *Hershey's* candy to empty the whole store. Other episodes include the pastry chefs using *Reese's Pieces* and *Almond Joy* candies to create a Scary Sci-Fi chocolate showpiece. And the competitors have their work cut out for them as they create Frightful Forest-themed chocolate displays incorporating *Twizzlers Twists* and *York Peppermint Patties*.



Press Contact: Seth Hyman
Phone: 646-336-3683; Email: seth_hyman@discovery.com
*High-res images and clips available upon request

For more than a century, The Hershey Company has been a candy innovator with over 90 iconic brands around the world, including *Hershey's*, *Reese's*, *Kit Kat*®, *Jolly Rancher*, and more, driving billions in annual revenue while also building meaningful and inclusive connections within the community. In celebration of *Chocolate Meltdown: Hershey's After Dark*, Food Network has partnered with *Hershey's* to give away custom branded s'mores and cups of *Hershey's Melted Hot Chocolate*, as featured on the show, to consumers at *Hershey's Chocolate World* timed to the series launch, along with the winners from each episode receiving a year's supply of *Hershey's* candy and a dream vacation to *Hersheypark*.

Fans can check out all the incredible creations and see Sunny, Maneet and Ralph compete in their own chocolate-themed challenges at FoodNetwork.com/HersheysAfterDark. Follow along with the competition on social media using #HersheysAfterDark.

Chocolate Meltdown: Hershey's After Dark is produced by Beyond Productions for Food Network.

###

FOOD NETWORK (www.foodnetwork.com) is a unique lifestyle network, website and magazine that connects viewers to the power and joy of food. The network strives to be viewers' best friend in food and is committed to leading by teaching, inspiring, empowering and entertaining through its talent and expertise. Food Network is distributed to nearly 100 million U.S. households and draws over 46 million unique web users monthly. Since launching in 2009, Food Network Magazine's rate base has grown 13 times and is the No. 2 best-selling monthly magazine on the newsstand, with 13.5 million readers. Food Network is owned by Discovery, Inc., a global leader in real life entertainment serving a passionate audience of superfans around the world and spanning 220 countries and territories; the portfolio also includes direct-to-consumer streaming services such as discovery+ and Food Network Kitchen, along with premium brands Discovery Channel, HGTV, TLC, Investigation Discovery, Travel Channel, MotorTrend, Animal Planet, Science Channel, and the multi-platform JV with Chip and Joanna Gaines, Magnolia Network as well as OWN: Oprah Winfrey Network, Discovery Kids in Latin America, and Eurosport.