



Contact : Lauren Sklar
Phone : 646-336-3745, Email : lauren_sklar@discovery.com

WORST COOKS IN AMERICA IS BACK!

ANNE BURRELL SIGNS MULTI-YEAR COMMITMENT WITH FOOD NETWORK AND HIT COMPETITION SERIES RETURNS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5TH AT 9PM ET/PT

DISCOVERY+ SUBSCRIBERS CAN ACCESS PREMIERE A WEEK EARLIER ON DECEMBER 29TH

NEW YORK – November 23, 2021 – Anne Burrell, star of Food Network’s primetime franchise *Worst Cooks in America*, has signed an exclusive multi-year deal inclusive of at least two more cycles of the popular series she has headlined since it began, it was announced today by Courtney White, President, Food Network and Streaming Food Content, Discovery Inc.

The next *Worst Cooks in America* cycle is set to premiere early next year. In the upcoming season, Anne is joined for the first time by Chef **Cliff Crooks** to lead the newest batch of twelve culinary nightmares through a rigorous boot camp in their quest to become kitchen masters. While some recruits are total strangers, this time there are married couples, long-lost cousins and a pair of drag artist best friends among those battling to improve their horrific cooking skills. With the red team led by Anne and blue by Cliff, this season begins in a twilight zone dimension of overcooked food, bad knife cuts and atrocious flavors – but the journey to kitchen success kicks off as soon as the recruits walk through the doors. The challenges are bigger and bolder than ever, from an outrageous culinary warriors game to a beach-themed cooking relay to a dessert wonderland scavenger hunt. In the end, only the most improved recruit is awarded a \$25,000 grand prize and bragging rights for their mentor. In 2021, *Worst Cooks* reached more than 7 million P2+ viewers and the series is currently ranked among Food Network’s top five programs of the year. *Worst Cooks in America* premieres Wednesday, January 5th at 9pm (all times ET/PT) with a super-sized 90-minute episode on Food Network and streaming on discovery+. In addition, discovery+ subscribers can access the premiere episode a week earlier on December 29th.

“Anne has been an integral part of the success of *Worst Cooks* from the very beginning. She is an exceptional talent – in the kitchen and onscreen - and we are thrilled to continue working together,” said White. “And we knew pairing Anne with newcomer Cliff Crooks would make for one of the freshest and most fun seasons yet.”

Added Burrell, “I am super excited to announce my multi-year deal with Food Network, which has been my extended family for almost two decades. I have the greatest time hosting *Worst Cooks in America* and look forward to teaching our contestants and viewers on this show, as well as other series, how to cook like rock stars. There is so much incredible content in the works – stay tuned!”

This year’s recruits are: married couple **Eddie and Kara Anderson** (Leitchfield, Kentucky); married couple **Bianca Bencosme and Hector Peralta** (York, Pennsylvania); drag artists and best friends **Marti Cummings and Peachez Iman-Cummings** (New York, New York); best friends **Hilda Ike** (Kissimmee, Florida) and **Deneise White** (Poinciana, Florida); **Al Kingswriter** (Tony, Wisconsin); **Melody Moore** (Atlanta, Georgia); and long-lost cousins **Angie Padilla** (San Jose, California) and **Cheyenne Loomis** (London, Kentucky).

In the premiere episode, Anne and Cliff have their work cut out for them as they welcome the kitchen chaos, food fumbles and culinary confusion of the twelve new boot camp recruits. While some of the competitors know each other, they are all strangers to the culinary arts. To start the competition, the recruits must cook a loved one’s favorite dish to show their skills, or lack thereof, in the kitchen. For the main dish challenge, they must replicate Anne and Cliff’s takes on a surf and turf dinner – and the mentors are shocked by the disastrous results, but still must pick their teams. Upcoming episodes include a gladiator-style arena challenge, Mad Hatter-inspired tea party and the return of fan-favorite game *Remote Control Chef*. In the finale on Wednesday, February 23rd at 9pm, the two most improved recruits put their culinary skills to the test and serve a three-course restaurant quality meal to a panel of food experts. After a blind taste test, judges **Matt Abdo**, **Kwame Onwuachi** and **Millie Peartree** decide who wins \$25,000 and bragging rights for their team leader.

Fans can get an exclusive extended look at Anne and Cliff’s boot camp demos at [FoodNetwork.com/WorstCooks](https://www.foodnetwork.com/WorstCooks). Follow along with the competition on social media and watch along as the mentors react to some of the craziest moments in *Worst Cooks* history using the hashtag #WorstCooks.



Contact : Lauren Sklar
Phone : 646-336-3745, Email : lauren_sklar@discovery.com

Worst Cooks in America is produced by Objective Media Group America and All3 Media America.

###

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 forthcoming multi-platform JV with Chip and Joanna Gaines, Magnolia Network as well as OWN: Oprah Winfrey Network, Discovery Kids in Latin America, and Eurosport.

[discovery+](#) is the definitive non-fiction, real life subscription streaming service. discovery+ features a landmark partnership with Verizon that gives their customers with select plans up to 12 months of discovery+ on Verizon. discovery+ has the largest-ever content offering of any new streaming service at launch, featuring a wide range of exclusive, original series across popular, passion verticals in which Discovery brands have a strong leadership position, including lifestyle and relationships; home and food; true crime; paranormal; adventure and natural history; as well as science, tech and the environment, and a slate of high-quality documentaries. For more, visit discoveryplus.com or find it on a variety of platforms and devices, including ones from Amazon, Apple, Google, Microsoft, Roku and Samsung.