

CULINARY ARTS

234

VIKAS KHANNA

SERVING INDIAN FLAVORS ON AMERICA'S FINEST TABLES

Chef Vikas Khanna rose to international prominence through relentless grit in New York's competitive restaurant scene, earning a Michelin star for Junoon in 2011 before opening the acclaimed Bungalow. A bestselling author of more than 40 books, filmmaker and director of *The Last Color*, television host, and humanitarian, Khanna was named to the TIME100 Innovators list for using food, storytelling, and cultural diplomacy to elevate Indian cuisine and culture on the global stage.



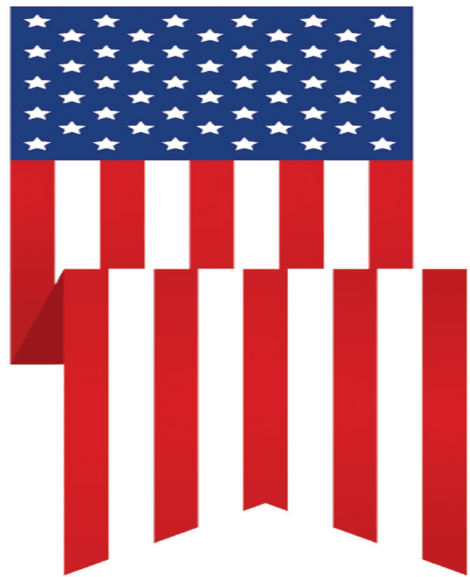
235

PADMA LAKSHMI

FROM IMMIGRANT DREAM TO AMERICA'S CULINARY ICON

Born in Chennai and raised in the United States, Padma Lakshmi has become one of America's most influential culinary and cultural personalities. Best known for hosting *Top Chef* for 17 seasons and creating Hulu's acclaimed *Taste the Nation*, she has earned 16 Primetime Emmy nominations and was named to the TIME100 list in 2023. A bestselling author, entrepreneur, and UNDP Goodwill Ambassador, Lakshmi also co-founded the Endometriosis Foundation of America, championing women's health and immigrant rights.



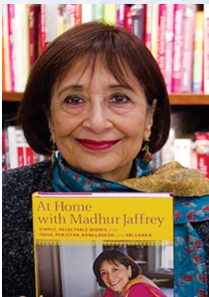


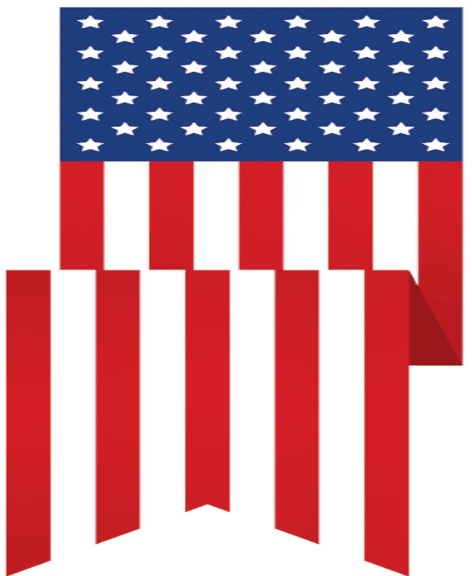
236

MADHUR JAFFREY

THE WOMAN WHO TAUGHT AMERICA TO COOK INDIAN

Madhur Jaffrey introduced authentic Indian cuisine to millions of American households through her pioneering cookbooks and television programs. An award-winning actress turned culinary icon, she authored classics such as *An Invitation to Indian Cooking*, Madhur Jaffrey's *Indian Cookery*, and *World Vegetarian*, which won the prestigious James Beard Award. Honored with the Padma Bhushan, Jaffrey's decades-long career transformed the perception of Indian food in the United States, making her one of the world's most influential culinary ambassadors.





FASHION

237

NAEEM KHAN

DRAPING AMERICA'S ICONS IN INDIAN CRAFTSMANSHIP

From Mumbai to New York's fashion elite, Naeem Khan has built one of America's most celebrated luxury fashion labels. After apprenticing with legendary designer Halston, he launched his eponymous brand in 2003, with collections featured at New York Fashion Week and leading retailers including Bergdorf Goodman, Neiman Marcus, and Saks Fifth Avenue. Known for ornate, hand-embroidered clothes, Khan has dressed Michelle Obama, the Princess of Wales, Beyoncé, Taylor Swift, and other global icons. A member of the Council of Fashion Designers of America, he seamlessly blends Indian craftsmanship with American haute couture.



238

RACHEL ROY

BLENDING GLOBAL INFLUENCES WITH AMERICAN FASHION

Rachel Roy has built a distinguished career in American fashion, launching her eponymous label in 2004 after rising through the ranks at Rocawear. Inducted into the Council of Fashion Designers of America in 2007, she has dressed Michelle Obama and other leading personalities. Born in California to a Dutch mother and a Bengali Indian father, Roy is also the author of *Design Your Life* (2015) and co-author of the young adult novel *96 Words for Love* (2019) with her daughter, Ava Dash.



