Ethan Keyes

Professor Cohen

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Podcast

Overview:

The following podcast provides a brief overview on who the late culinary giant James Beard was. I first dive into his legacy through the James Beard Foundation created shortly after his passing in his honor. This provides context to the criticism next brought up of the foundation, specifically on their lack of diversity in recent years pertaining to their annual prestigious awards especially in light of the recently growing fight for racial justice in America. Using excerpts of different voices from the PBS documentary *American Masters: James Beard* I illustrate a brief summary of his life and rise to fame. These accounts give insight to the impact and importance that he had in the culinary world and how his ideals and teachings most likely don’t fully align with the controversial decisions made by the Beard Foundation recently. I then include an interview with my grandma who grew up in the mid 1900s and was cooking during the time Beard’s reputation was gaining traction.

Overall, my goal is to educate my audience on who James Beard was and what he stood for. While relatively little is written about him and his personal life and few audio recordings still exist of him and his show or teachings, I hope my audience walks away with new knowledge about his life and values.

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