

JUDGE FACT SHEET



Wing Lam

Wahoo's Fish Taco

Wing Lam and his brothers founded Wahoo's Fish Taco in Costa Mesa, California, in 1988. Immigrating to the U.S. from Brazil in 1975, the brother's mixed traditional Chinese and Brazilian flavors with dishes we encountered while traveling in Mexico.

During his studies at San Diego State University, Wing came up with the idea to replicate the fish tacos he enjoyed during trips to Mexico. The brothers' efforts to replicate street tacos with a healthy twist coincided with a renewed consumer interest in "fresh" Mexican cuisine, and the first Wahoo's Fish Taco stand launched in November 1988 in Costa Mesa was an instant hit.

Wahoo's is the only fast-casual restaurant brand invited to host a historic dinner commemorating its 30th anniversary at the James Beard Foundation in New York City, which included signature items from Wahoo's wildly popular Chinese-Brazilian-Mexican fusion menu. With 60 locations in California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Tokyo, Japan, Wahoo's continues its mission to nourish their communities with fresh, healthy, delicious food and unforgettable experiences. Los Angeles locations include STAPLES Center, LAX, Santa Monica, Torrance and Long Beach.

Wing is an active philanthropist serving on the Board of Directors with Share Our Strength, Juvenile Diabetic Research Foundation and Surfrider Foundation and is an active member of the Asian American Journalists Association. In 2018, he received the Corporate Creativity, Kindness OC Award and Innovation Leadership Award from the Child Creativity Lab, as well as the 2018 IMPACT Award from the International Executive Council. Garnering countless awards for philanthropy and business achievements over the years, Wing and his brothers have been named among the 500 Most Influential by the Orange County Business Journal, with Wahoo's Fish Taco the recipient of the Golden Foodie Award and Best OC Brand by OC Weekly. He holds a degree from San Diego State University with a B.S in science and a minor in Spanish.