**PHILIP J. ROMANO**

Philip J. Romano is an investor, entrepreneur, artist and nationally-renowned restaurateur. Involved in the restaurant business for over forty years, in the course of his career, he has created over twenty-five concepts.

He is the only person in the restaurant industry that has created more than two national concepts….he has created six so far: *Fuddruckers, Romano’s Macaroni Grill, Spageddies, Cozymel’s, Rudy’s Country Store and BBQ* and *eatZi’s Market & Bakery*. To date, his concepts have generated more than $20 billion in revenue.

Romano has created Trinity Groves, approximately 90 acres at the foot of the Calatrava Bridge in Dallas. The first fifteen acres will be a restaurant concept incubator. Its purpose is to create brands and induce entrepreneurs to start businesses and create jobs and tax revenue for the city of Dallas.

Throughout his career, he has been featured in numerous newspapers and periodicals including the *Wall Street Journal*, the *London Financial Times, Restaurant Business, Forbes Magazine,* and *TIME Magazine*. He is profiled in a university-level textbook entitled  *Management*.

From 1989 through 2002, Romano served as a joint venture partner of Brinker International, Inc. (NYSE: EAT) as national operator, developer and franchisor of numerous restaurant concepts, including Chili’s Grill & Bar and Romano’s Macaroni Grill.

His creativity expands beyond restaurants to art. Romano began painting 30 years ago to let his creativity flow. In September 2008, for the first time ever, Romano sold a piece of his artwork. To date he has sold over $1 million of his own artwork which can be found at the Samuel Lynne Galleries.

Romano and his family established a charitable foundation, The Food Foundation, which operates as Hunger Busters. This 501(c) (3) organization provides food to the hungry and serves over 150,000 hungry schoolchildren in Dallas. He also serves on the Board of the Cox School of Business at Southern Methodist University.

*Nation’s Restaurant News* named Mr. Romano as one of the top 20 restaurateurs in the year 2000 and "1995 Innovator of the Year." Other honors include being inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame in 2009 and being recognized as EY Serial Entrepreneur of the Year in 2014. Romano is most grateful, however, for the birth of his only child, Sam. A native of New York state, he attended Florida Atlantic University. He presently resides in Dallas.