



AMERICAN CULINARY FEDERATION PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 29, 2010

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Award Winners Announced at 2010 ACF Central Regional Conference

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla., March 29, 2010—The American Culinary Federation (ACF), Inc., the largest association of professional culinarians in North America, held its 2010 ACF Central Regional Conference at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown, Indianapolis, March 26-28.

At the conference, the American Academy of Chefs (AAC), ACF's honor society, gave a \$1,000 grant to the Central Region Student Team Regional Champions, ACF Louis Joliet Chapter, to assist the team with expenses to travel to the national competition in August.

ACF honored members and chapters at the conference. The 2010 ACF Central Regional Conference award recipients listed below will compete for national titles against their winning regional counterparts at the 2010 ACF National Convention in Anaheim, Calif., Aug. 2-5.

Chef of the Year, sponsored by Unilever Foodsolutions

James "Kevin" Storm, CEC, CCA, AAC, executive chef, Bellerive Country Club, St. Louis; Chefs de Cuisine Association of St. Louis Inc.

Pastry Chef of the Year, sponsored by Splenda®

Nguyet Nguyen, assistant pastry chef, The Westin Crown Center Hotel, Kansas City, Mo.; ACF Greater Kansas City Chefs Association.

Chef Educator of the Year

Timothy Meyers, CCC, CCE, chef-instructor, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, Ill.; ACF Windy City Professional Culinarians Inc.

Hermann G. Rusch Chef's Achievement Award

Gregory Wozniak, CEC, AAC, retired, Germantown, Wis.; ACF Chefs of Milwaukee Inc.

Chef Professionalism Award, sponsored by Minor's®

John Reed, CEC, CCA, owner, Customized Culinary Solutions, Skokie, Ill.; ACF Windy City Professional Culinarians Inc.

Student Chef of the Year, sponsored by Custom Culinary, Inc.

Brett Jacobs, apprentice, Elcona Country Club, Bristol, Ind.; ACF South Bend Chefs and Cooks Association

Baron H. Galand Culinary Knowledge Bowl, sponsored by American Technical Publishers

Kendall College, Chicago: **Allison Chikos, Erika Giffin, Sarah Roberts, Jacqueline Wallner** and **Edward Whitney**. The team is coached by **Dina Altieri, CEC, CCE**.

Student Team Regional Championship, sponsored by R.L. Schreiber, Inc.

ACF Louis Joliet Chapter, students from Joliet Junior College, Joliet, Ill.: **James Bingham, Matthew Cappellini, CC, Lindsey Cizewski, Molly Meehan** and **Lauren Mulvey**. The team is coached by **Timothy Bucci, CEC, CCE, CHE**, and **Kyle Richardson, CEC, CCE, AAC**.

Make-It-Mini Dessert Trio, sponsored by MARS Foodservice

Jennifer Kelm, apprentice, Lake Quivira Country Club, Shawnee Mission, Kan.; ACF Greater Kansas City Chefs Association

One-Pot Win A Lot, sponsored by Riviana

Robert Stricklin, CEC, AAC, executive chef, College of the Ozarks, Point Lookout, Mo.; ACF Springfield/Branson Chefs Association

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The 2010 ACF Central Regional Conference award recipients listed below were recognized for their outstanding contributions and goodwill.

Central Region Rene Roncari Senior Chef Humanitarian Award

Bernard Urban, CEC, AAC, chef-ambassador at Ben E. Keith Co., Conroe, Texas; Texas Chefs Association

Chapter of the Year

ACF Greater Kansas City Chefs Association, Kansas City, Mo.

Chapter Achievement Award

ACF Chicago Chefs of Cuisine Inc., Chicago

ACF Greater Kansas City Chefs Association

ACF Louis Joliet Chapter, Joliet, Ill.

ACF Minneapolis Chefs Chapter, Minneapolis

ACF of Iowa, Des Moines, Iowa

ACF South Bend Chefs and Cooks Association, South Bend, Ind.

ACF Windy City Professional Culinaris Inc., Chicago

Cutting Edge Award

Kelly Cook, CEC, AAC, director, Texas Chefs Association, Dallas chapter, Hurst, Texas; Texas Chefs Association

Luis Fernando Mojica, student, Elgin Community College, Elgin, Ill.; ACF Windy City Professional Culinaris Inc.

Rajeev Patgaonkar, CEC, AAC, executive sous chef, Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, East Lansing, Mich.; ACF Capital Professional Chefs & Cooks Association of Greater Lansing

Lindy Robinson, dean, business division, Johnson County Community College, Overland Park, Kan.; ACF Greater Kansas City Chefs Association

ACF President's Medallions

Charles Duit, CEC, AAC, foodservice director, Buckner Retirement Services—Calder Woods, Beaumont, Texas; Texas Chefs Association

Jim Lund, CEC, ACE, executive chef, Rational USA, Montrose, Minn.; ACF Minneapolis Chefs Chapter

Paul Santaularia, CEC, CCE, culinary-arts instructor, Northland Career Center, Platte City, Mo.; ACF Greater Kansas City Chefs Association

Charles "Eddie" Wilson, executive chef, Clabber Girl Corporation, Terre Haute, Ind.; ACF Greater Indianapolis Chapter

The 2010 ACF Central Regional Conference, hosted by ACF Greater Indianapolis Chapter, brought hundreds of chefs, cooks and foodservice professionals to Indianapolis. The conference provided attendees with opportunities to advance their professional development and enhance their culinary skills through business seminars, cooking demonstrations featuring the latest trends and techniques, cooking competitions and awards.

Sponsors of the 2010 ACF Central Regional Conference and ACF national award sponsors are: American Technical Publishers; Avocados from Mexico; Canada Cutlery Inc.; Central Region State Beef Councils; The Cheesecake Factory Bakery Inc.; Custom Culinary, Inc.; Gordon Food Service; Heinz North America; King & Prince Seafood; Koch Foods, Inc.; MARS Food Services; McFarling Foods, Inc.; MenuMax; MINOR'S®; NEWCHEF Fashion Inc.; NRA Conserve; R.L. Schreiber, Inc.; Riviana Foods Inc.; Splenda®; The Sterno Group; Sysco Indianapolis, LLC; Tyson Food Service; Unilever Foodsolutions; US Foodservice; Vitamix Corp.; and Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board.

The American Culinary Federation, Inc., established in 1929, is the premier professional organization for culinarians in North America. With more than 22,000 members spanning 230 chapters nationwide, ACF is the culinary leader in offering educational resources, training, apprenticeship and accreditation. In addition, ACF operates the most comprehensive certification program for chefs in the United States. ACF is home to ACF Culinary Team USA, the official representative for the United States in major international culinary competitions, and to the Chef & Child Foundation, founded in 1989 to promote proper nutrition in children and to combat childhood obesity. For more information, visit www.acfchefs.org.

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TO ARRANGE INTERVIEWS OR FOR A HIGH-RES PHOTO, CONTACT PATRICIA CARROLL OR LEAH CRAIG.