



Metropolitan Community College
40 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

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High School Culinary Invitational set to test the skills of aspiring chefs

OMAHA, Neb.—About 100 high school students representing 13 Nebraska schools will showcase their culinary arts skills at the ninth annual ICA High School Culinary Invitational, Feb. 21–22 at the Institute for the Culinary Arts on Metropolitan Community College's Fort Omaha Campus, 32nd Street and Sorensen Parkway, Building 22. Teams will compete for culinary glory by preparing three-course meals, testing their industry knowledge and devising restaurant concepts.

Students will represent the following high schools: Bellevue East, Fremont, Gross Catholic, Louisville, Milford, Millard Horizon, Omaha Bryan, Omaha Career Center, Papillion-La Vista, Papillion-La Vista South, Plattsmouth, Ralston and Roncalli Catholic.

The invitational is supported by MCC students, staff and faculty and by leaders in the food and hospitality industries. The event recognizes students for teamwork, excellence in culinary skills and knowledge about the industry. Additionally, it gives leaders in the industry the opportunity to interact with and evaluate future leaders. The event showcases the culinary arts and hospitality programs at MCC, which prepare students for careers in the food and hospitality industries.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, visit mccneb.edu/chh/highschoolculinaryinvitational.asp.

Friday, Feb. 21, 9 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Culinary Competition and Management Competition

Teams participating in the **Culinary Competition** will demonstrate their creativity and culinary skills through preparation of a three-course meal in 60 minutes. Their performance will be observed and rated by judges from leading postsecondary colleges and universities, local chefs and restaurateurs.

In the **Management Competition**, students are tested on their communication skills and their ability to apply knowledge of the restaurant and foodservice industry to practical situations.

Saturday, Feb. 22, 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m., Hospitality Knowledge Bowl, Market Basket Competition and awards program

Teams participating in the **Hospitality Knowledge Bowl** will demonstrate their knowledge of the restaurant and foodservice industry by competing in a question-and-answer Jeopardy-style event.

In the **Market Basket Competition**, students and teachers are challenged to create dishes from a grab bag of ingredients.

Scholarships, gift certificates, medals and a trophy will be presented during the **awards program**.

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Metropolitan Community College, accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association, is a comprehensive, public community college that offers affordable and quality education to all residents of Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington counties. Founded in 1974, MCC has the largest enrollment out of six community colleges in Nebraska and is the second largest postsecondary institution in the state. MCC serves more than 40,000 students annually.