

# HEALTHY SCHOOLS CAMPAIGN

EVERY CHILD DESERVES TO LEARN + THRIVE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Chicago Culinary High School Students to Compete in Healthy Cooking Competition Senator Dick Durbin Serves as Honorary Chair of Cooking up Change

CHICAGO, November 17, 2016 - High school students from across Chicago come to Bridgeport Art Center on November 17 to compete in the Cooking up Change culinary competition.

Cooking up Change challenges Chicago high school culinary students to create healthy, great-tasting meals that meet the real-life requirements of the school meal program. Cooking up Change serves up life-changing opportunities, helps students realize their own potential and puts student voices front and center in the national dialogue about school food. Healthy Schools Campaign launched Cooking up Change in Chicago in 2007, and it has since grown to include cities across the country. Every year, these amazing Chicago student chefs show off their meals to local leaders, policymakers and the culinary community at an event that also serves as Healthy Schools Campaign's annual benefit.

This year, the event is co-chaired by Triste and Ian Smith, doctor and television personality, and the honorary chair is United States Senator Dick Durbin. The contest and event also mark a special occasion: the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Cooking up Change!

With delicious and nutritious recipes, these high school culinary students will battle it out in the kitchen to see who will take home top honors, trophies and culinary scholarships, and of course make their schools proud.

"These students have shown that it's possible to work within the constraints of the district's nutrition standards, and still make a healthy and delicious school meal that their peers will enjoy," says Rochelle Davis, Healthy Schools Campaign's President and CEO. "The winners will go on to Washington, D.C., to compete against teams from across the country, meet with policymakers and present their meals to Congress. It's their opportunity to lend their voices to the national dialogue surrounding healthy school food."

We couldn't put on such a great contest every year without the support of our generous sponsors including: Presenting sponsor and National School Nutrition Partner, Aramark;

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Heroes, Aetna and Sammons Financial Group; Champion sponsors RJB Properties and School Health Corporation; Official Education Partner, Chicago Public Schools CTE Culinary Arts Program; Culinary Scholarship sponsor, Washburne Culinary Institute; National Gold level sponsor, National Food Group; Official Travel Partner, Southwest; Official Culinary Partner, James Beard Foundation; and Silver level sponsor, American Federation of Teachers.

The following students will represent their schools with the following meals:

## **Roberto Clemente Community Academy High School**

Montserrat Aviles, Alyssa Borrero, Daya Stanley, Christian Ramirez, Yvette Rivera and Alexis Romero

*South American Roasted Chicken and Rice, Spicy Beans and Zesty Pineapple Toss-up*

## **Marie Sklodowska Curie Metropolitan High School**

Alexis Chavez, Julissa Maya, Deigo Martized and Alejandro Vargas

*Naomes Fiedo, Cucumber Tomato Salad and Tutti Frutti Pineapple*

## **Chicago Vocational Career Academy High School**

Corencia Campbell, Darius Gordon, Sheila Kinkaid, Rashaan Laster and Tamia Lloyd

*Café Tuna Melt, Broccoli Sauté and Fruit Salsa*

## **Paul Laurence Dunbar Career Academy High School**

Darius Brown, Tiara Brown, Sherman Davis, Alliyah White and Markqueatta White

*Baked Chicken D'Bar, Mighty Cabbage with Carrots and Peach Yo*

## **Benito Juarez Community Academy High School**

Bernardo Chavez, Tanya Davenport, Brisa Gonzalez, Maricela Hernandez, Alexander Macedo and Juan Perez

*Chicken and Rice with Salsa and Pineapple Fruit Salsa*

## **North-Grand High School**

Toyriana Anderson, Juan Estrada, Dedra Freeman, Keana Martinez, Nyasia Martinez and Lomeesha Reid

*Jerk Meatball Taco, Curry Rice and Legumes and Pineapple Crumble*

## **Charles Allen Prosser Career Academy High School**

Itzel Bucio, Jacqueline Degante, Jasalyne Garcia, Willie Harvey, Te'Quan Madlock and Jeremiah Tate

*Tuna Cake and Broccoli Slaw*

## **Ellen H Richards Career Academy High School**

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Jeffrey Gonzalez, Naheisha Hitchcock, Raudel Ruiz, Armando Truillo and Edgar Villegas

*Vesuvio Chicken, Chopped Caesar Salad and Caramelized Pear-pono*

## **Theodore Roosevelt High School**

Ashauntae Brown, Evelyn Luviano, Kevin Maldonado, Edgar Tapia, Jizel Vazquez and Yamaira Velez

*The Chicken That Bites Back and Zucchini Chips*

## **Southside Occupational Academy High School**

Kristin Alexander, Desmond Brown, Adriana Jackson, Danaja Jackson, Jana Kennedy and Kalisa Matthews

*Flaming Hot Chicken, Southern Cabbage and Tooty Fruity*

## **Jacqueline B Vaughn Occupational High School**

Lynsey Carreno, Victor Diaz, Arneisha Fox, James Gaona, Alex Kreher and Adrianna Sanchez

*Spaghetti with a Twist, Zucchini Gratin and Pompeian Peach Cobbler*

## **George Washington High School**

Marissa Barajas, Elvira Martinez, Adan Ramirez and Briana Reyes

*Pollo Tang, CaroZinni and Pineapple Swirl Parfait*

## **ABOUT HEALTHY SCHOOLS CAMPAIGN**

Healthy Schools Campaign (HSC) is a nonprofit organization leading change for healthy schools at the local, state and national levels. HSC advocates for all students to have nutritious food, physical activity, health services and clean, healthy school environments, elements that directly support learning and health. In light of the vast health disparities our nation faces, HSC focuses on the health and wellness of low-income students of color and strives to make equity part of the public dialogue about education and health. HSC brings together parents, teachers, principals, school nurses, students, policymakers and partners to raise a strong voice for healthy schools, creating change at schools and at the district level in Chicago. This on-the-ground experience informs HSC's national advocacy to benefit all students. This work is grounded in the belief that every child deserves to learn and thrive.