

Chefs for Kids

Cookin' Up Smiles Since 1991



Scholarship Packet 2026

INTRODUCING THE MICHAEL TY CULINARY AWARD



AUGUST 4, 1953 – AUGUST 22, 2022

Chefs for Kids is honored to introduce the inaugural Michael Ty Culinary Award, named after one of our founders and steadfast supporters in our first 30 years of existence – Michael Ty, CEC, AAC, HOF.

In addition to his work with Chefs for Kids, Michael was dedicated to advancing the culinary community. He was a decades-long member of the American Culinary Federation and held numerous positions, including President of the national organization and Las Vegas chapter. Through this, he mentored several fellow culinarians at all levels in their career.

Michael also believed in educating and mentoring future generations of culinarians. He supported several young culinarian competitions in any way he could; including mentoring chefs participating in Chaîne's Young Chefs program, and established annual funding for one student participant.

Michael always gave with a humble, open heart, and his family continues his legacy of giving and volunteerism to this day. The Michael Ty Culinary Award has been created in his honor to provide academic financial aid to the next generation of culinarians in Southern Nevada.

2026 APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Chefs for Kids provides future culinarians with the Michael Ty Culinary Award. The award will include a monetary contribution of \$2,500 towards their education at either UNLV or CSN, and surprise gift valued at a minimum of \$100.

Eligibility Criteria - All Candidates Must Be:

- A current Nevada resident
- An exemplary student with a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher
- Accepted to attend, or currently attending, UNLV or CSN
- Enrolled or plan to be enrolled as a full-time or part-time student, taking a minimum of nine credit hours each term
- Majoring in a culinary, restaurant management, or food service related program

High School Applicants - Must be a graduating senior from a Nevada high school or equivalent program.

College Applicants - Must have finished one semester at either UNLV or CSN.

Each application must include the following documents:

- Cover Letter Detailing:
 - Your anticipated career path.
 - What you hope to accomplish with your culinary education and how this money will help you on your journey to achieve those goals.
 - Why you are deserving of this scholarship. Include information regarding your passion and commitment to the culinary industry.
 - How you have demonstrated exceptional leadership or community service.
 - What makes you different or stand out from other applicants?
- Resume - Be sure to include any relevant work or volunteer experience.
- Current college or high school transcript with GPA (unofficial)
- Two letters of recommendation - one from a culinary instructor or teacher, and one from a past or present employer, culinary mentor, or other community professional (cannot be a relative or friend)
- High school candidates must also submit a letter of acceptance from either UNLV or CSN

Applications Must be Submitted Electronically or Postmarked by February 28, 2026

Winners will be invited to accept the award at our Dinner & Auction in the spring. Date TBA.

Email: donations@chefsforkids.org

Mailing Address:

Chefs for Kids
Attention: Scholarship Committee
8050 Paradise Road, Suite 100
Las Vegas NV, 89123

Criteria for Evaluation

Applicant will be considered on the basis of financial need, cumulative grade point average, amount of culinary work and volunteer experience, strength of applicant's cover letter and letters of recommendation, and overall professionalism and attention to detail in the application.

Notification and Award Disbursement

Scholarship winners will be notified by email and invited to the Chefs for Kids Dinner & Auction to accept the award. If they can't attend, an alternative photo opportunity will be arranged. Winners must provide their fall class schedule before funds are disbursed, and the disbursement method will be determined by Chefs for Kids (direct payment to school for tuition or scholarship gift card, or check provided to winner).

Don't be afraid TO TAKE Whisks!

SUPPORT THE NEXT GENERATION

DONATE TODAY



Be sure to designate
your gift to the
scholarship fund

Please note that up
to 10% of the gift may
be designated
toward initiative
administration

