



U.S. CULINARY
★ O P E N ★

at



Culinary Competitors
Application & Information

2027 NAFEM Show

Orange County Convention Center

Orlando, Florida, USA

February 11th -13th, 2027



**U.S. CULINARY
OPEN**

Competitor Information

Congratulations on applying to participate in The U.S. Culinary Open,

America's Premier Culinary Competition at NAFEM Show in Orlando, FL February 11th-13th.

To participate in the U.S. Culinary Open as a Culinary Professional and represent the best of our Industry is both an honor and challenge. Those who are selected to compete for the prestigious title of U.S. Culinary Champion will be those who have sharpened their skills in some of the best culinary establishments in the world and have chosen to showcase those skills and be judged by fellow culinary masters. We are focused on showcasing our industry's best culinary talent in an environment of the highest level of culinary equipment and culinary ingredients. This is more than a culinary competition, it is a celebration of Chefs and all they do to elevate the industry we all love.

We celebrate you for your drive and dedication as a culinary professional and passion to become a member of a small number of chefs to be called a U.S. Culinary Open competitor and hopefully Champion.

Competition Format

- 3 Hours to create and serve 3 dishes, 4 each "1 Appetizer, 1 Vegan/Vegetarian Entree and 1 Entree"
- Each dish must include and be comprised of Selected Proteins and selected seasonal vegetables
- Each Southbend Kitchen Suite will be 12 x10 and fully equipped with Rational Combi-Oven, Induction Cooking Units, Food Processor, Refrigeration, 2 compartment sink and other equipment to be listed later.
 - Plates to be selected by the competitor from Steelite International.
 - Food to be judged by 4 Highly Respected Chefs from industry.

AWARDS

1st Place Team: \$7,500

(\$6,000 to the Head Chef, \$1,500 to the assistant)
"Silver Champion Trophy" - Championship Ring

2nd Place Team: \$4,000

(\$3,000 to the Head Chef, \$1,000 to the assistant)

3rd Place Team: \$2,000

(\$1,500 to the Head Chef, \$500 to the assistant)

Best Assistant:

\$1,000 Cash prize

TEAM REQUIREMENTS

- Send in Signed Completed Application(s)
- Send Professional Headshot(s)
- Send Current Resume(s)
- \$500 Application fee (per team (paid if selected) within 15 days
- Must be willing to travel and stay in Orlando, FL for the duration of the competition at your own expense Feb. 10th -13th, discounted rooms will be provided
- Send in Signed Completed Application(s)
- Understand: Media Promoting the competition will use team images & likeless to promote the event



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Chef Application

Chef / Professional: (23 years of age or older)

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Suffix: _____

Title: _____ Birthdate: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Cell Phone #: _____ Work #: _____

Employer: _____ Work Location: _____

Instagram _____ LinkedIn: _____ Other: _____

• Please attach resume with your work history including any culinary competitions or awards that may have been received throughout your career.

US Culinary Open Competition Agreement Form

____ As the Undersigned Competitor, I agree and will comply with the Competition Manual, and with all applicable all Policies and Procedures.

____ I, the Undersigned Competitor, understand that all judges have been screened and that all decisions and scoring are final and cannot be changed, altered or retracted in any way.

____ By entering this competition, I hereby agree to release, discharge, and hold harmless U.S. Culinary Open and or NAFEM officers, directors, members, agents, and employees, from any claims, losses, and damages arising out of my participation in this competition and related publicity.

____ I hereby grant permission to U.S.Culinary Open & NAFEM, based on adequate consideration, to publish, copyright, and otherwise use for U.S. Culinary Open and NAFEM purposes of promoting the competition, my name, likeness, image, speech, and biographical information of and related to me in any manner or medium. I acknowledge that my participation in the competition is voluntary. I also understand that I will receive no compensation from the U.S. Culinary Open for the foregoing license.

____ I understand, I could be subjected to a full background check to ensure that all candidates that are selected are trustworthy in good standings among the culinary industry and I have given the correct identification and information regarding their/my background this may include: criminal records, work history, education, etc. I could be subject to automatic disqualification if found to be false.

____ I understand, Professionalism is my responsibility and I will conduct myself with high standards of personal behavior, moral values, honesty, integrity, respectfulness and accountability while representing the U.S. Culinary Open and their partners, failure to do so will result in disqualification.

____ I have carefully read this Agreement, initiated where indicated and I understand all of its terms. I am signing voluntarily and with full knowledge of its legal consequences.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

****Please email this form and the Chef Assistant form to Polly@USCulinaryOpen.com



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Assistant Application

Chef Assistant: (18 years to 25 years old)

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Suffix: _____

Title: _____ Birthdate: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Cell Phone #: _____ Work # _____

Employer: _____ Position: _____

Work Location: _____ Culinary School: _____

Instagram _____ LinkedIn: _____ Other: _____

Work Experience: _____

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____ I understand that I must follow the Florida State Beverage Laws, this includes not consuming alcohol if under the age of 21.

____ I have carefully read this Agreement, initiated where indicated and I understand all of its terms. I am signing voluntarily and with full knowledge of its legal consequences.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

***Please email this form and the Chef/Professional form to Pollv@USCulinaryOpen.com