

NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

County Government with a Unified Voice!

MARY MELFI
NJAC President
Hunterdon County Clerk

JOHN G. DONNADIO
Executive Director

CULINARY ART STUDENTS TO COMPETE IN COOK-OFF!

For Immediate Release: March 28, 2018

Contact: *John G. Donnadio, Executive Director*

(Trenton) The New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC) is pleased to announce that it's hosting the 7th annual county vocational-technical school cook-off challenge at 12:15 p.m. on May 11th at Caesar's in Atlantic City.

"We're thrilled to once again provide culinary art students from county vocational-technical schools across the State with the unique opportunity to showcase their incredible talents," said NJAC President and Hunterdon County Clerk Mary Melfi.

Culinary art students from county vocational-technical schools in Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean Somerset, Sussex, and Warren counties have been selected to compete for titles in taste, creativity, and food presentation. Each team will consist of 5-6 students and 2 staff members; and, must create 350 samples of appetizers at a total cost of less than \$450.00. NJAC officials, Atlantic City chefs, and convention guests will have the enjoyable task of judging the tough competition that will close NJAC's 68th annual celebration of county government.



Culinary art students from the 2017 cook-off challenge.

Much to the delight of the Camden County delegation, the Camden County Technical Schools earned its first title in 2017 as the People's Choice Champion with an

outstanding braised beef short rib taco. Conference guests were also treated to a dozen other amazing dishes that included seared scallops, hazelnut crusted pork tenderloin, Guinness and onion soup with an Irish cheddar crouton, a grilled Angus bacon beef patty, crab macaroni and cheese, dark honey bourbon grilled sausage, an American grilled cheese with a smoked tomato bisque shooter, and a Key West shrimp taco.

“The cook-off challenge keeps getting better each year and has become the Association’s signature event. I can’t wait to enjoy all of the fantastic dishes prepared by these impressive young men and woman as future restaurant owners and gourmet chefs,” *commented Melfi.*



People’s Choice Champions 2017



Delicious pork belly buns prepared by Morris County and fantastic Middle Eastern Delight dish prepared by Bergen County.

Special thanks to the New Jersey Council of County-Vocational Technical Schools for their hard work and commitment to making the cook-off challenge a tremendous success. Please visit our new website at www.njac.org for additional details about this one-of-a-kind event and our 68th annual celebration of county government also featuring: an inspiring County College Acapella Sing-Off; a briefing by the State’s former governors; two-dozen accredited workshops approved for continuing education credits; and the unique opportunity to network with community and business leaders from across the State.

