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March 10, 2015

CALL FOR PRESS PASSES

Request Credentials for Michigan ProStart® Competition

Dates: Sunday, March 22 & Monday, March 23
Times: March 22 – 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; March 23 – 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Location: Crowne Plaza Lansing West, 925 S. Creyts Road, Lansing, MI 48917

What is the Michigan ProStart Competition?

The Michigan ProStart Competition is a state-wide competition for high school students participating in the ProStart culinary and restaurant management education curriculum. Fifty-two teams representing the culinary programs at 18 career and technical centers from across Michigan compete in four disciplines: culinary, management/ entrepreneurship, food safety, and nutrition/marketing. In the culinary section, students have one hour to prepare a three-course meal (starter, entrée, and dessert) using only two butane burners. In the management/entrepreneurship portion, students are challenged to think like an entrepreneur and develop a full restaurant business plan.

Hosted by the Michigan Restaurant Association Educational Support Foundation (MRA ESF), the competition allows students to demonstrate skills they've learned in the ProStart program. The competition is open to the public.

The winning teams in the culinary and management/entrepreneurship portions are sent to Anaheim, California, from April 18-20, 2015, to compete against other teams from across the country at the 14th Annual National ProStart Invitational. In addition, more than \$500,000 in scholarships to help the students pursue careers in the foodservice industry will be shared by the top teams in the Michigan competition. Industry professionals as well as leading college and university instructors observe and rate all portions of the competition.

ProStart is a nationwide, two-year high school culinary program that unites the classroom and industry to develop the best and brightest talent into tomorrow's restaurant and foodservice leaders. In Michigan, 68 high schools and career centers use the ProStart curriculum with nearly 5,000 students participating.

Who is Involved?

55 teams of high school students from:

- Boyne City Public Schools
- Branch Area Careers Center
- Calhoun Area Career Center
- Capital Area Career Center
- Careerline Tech Center
- Clare-Gladwin RESD
- Gaylord High School
- Gratiot Isabella Technical Education Center
- Iosco RESA
- Leneswee Intermediate School District (LISD) TECH Center
- Oakland Schools Technical Campus Northwest
- Oakland Schools Technical Campus Southeast

Petoskey High School CTE
Plymouth-Canton Educational Park
Roseville High School
Saginaw Career Complex
South West Washtenaw Consortium (SWWC) @ Saline
Tuscola Technology Center
Van Buren Technology Center
West Shore ESD

Interested in attending and covering the Michigan ProStart Competition?

Simply reply to this e-mail and include the following information no later than March 20, 2015:

- Name
- Publication
- Date and time preference for Competition attendance

Learn more about the Michigan ProStart Program:

michiganrestaurant.org/prostart; [Twitter.com/ProStartMich](https://twitter.com/ProStartMich); [Facebook.com/MichiganProStart](https://facebook.com/MichiganProStart)

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