

On Thursday, April 7, the Piner High Second Year Culinary Art students won the 2011 “Chefs of Tomorrow” competition at the Vintner’s Inn. This event was sponsored by Wine Country Chefs of Tomorrow and the Sonoma County Lodging Association to benefit seven local high school culinary art programs. The high school students partnered with local executive chefs to prepare and serve international appetizers featuring local ingredients.

The following Piner students worked with Chef Bruce Frieseke from Applewood Inn and Restaurant: Julien Guzman, Jordan Lemus, Giovanni Arqueta, Eric Kroh, Garret Schlick, Armando Dominguez, Roman Robles, Austin Nelson, Justin Pilisdorf, Naomi Fernandez, Natalie Silva, Jessica Braly, Yesenia Arteaga, Ashley Bruno, Kevin Chhouey, Shelby Hoaglin, and Adriana Samii.

The winning appetizers prepared by the Piner High culinary students were:

1. Lamb loin with cocoa nib crust, mint chimichurri and a forget-me-not flower
2. Chili lime white shrimp with asparagus and saffron mayonnaise
3. Paper thin crostini with smoked duck pâté and caramelized apples topped with micro greens
4. BBQ bacon wrapped oysters with hickory chipotle sauce
5. Neapolitan on a stick: chocolate almond macaroon with homemade vanilla marshmallows and strawberry jelly candy

The event featured dinner and a silent auction with the funds raised to be split equally between the seven high school culinary programs.

Competing this year are: **Piner High School** with Chef Bruce Frieseke of Applewood Inn and Restaurant; **Casa Grande High School** with Chef Danny Mai of Sheraton/Tolay Restaurant; **El Molino High School** with Chef Jeff Reilly of Bodega Bay Lodge/Duck Club; **Healdsburg High School** with Chef Dustin Valette of Hotel Healdsburg/Dry Creek Kitchen; **Maria Carillo High School** with Chef Rene Jakushak of Santa Rosa’s Hilton/Nectar Restaurant; **Windsor High School** with Chef Richard Whipple of Hyatt Vineyard Creek/Brasserie; and **Sonoma Valley High School** with Chef Robert Champagne of Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn/Santé.

Chefs of Tomorrow <http://www.chefsoftomorrow.org/>
Bite Club Eats article in the Press Democrat <http://www.biteclubbeats.com/2011/04/chefs-of-tomorrow.html>