



# ANNUAL REPORT *2015*

# Fostering Louisiana's Foodservice Future

The Louisiana Restaurant Association Education Foundation (LRAEF) was created to enhance the industry's service to the public through education, promotion of career opportunities and community engagement.

Raising the image of the industry, enlightening students on career opportunities, and encouraging growth of the industry's workforce are the cornerstones of the LRAEF's mission.

The LRA, through its statewide chapters, supports the LRAEF mission and provides significant funding to support ProStart and post-secondary scholarship awards.

Through the LRAEF-administered ProStart®—high school culinary and management program—students learn valuable skills like mathematics and chemistry, business and management, and leadership and communication, to name a few.

The LRAEF Scholarship Fund assists qualified individuals in advancing their education through financial support of those seeking degree or certificate programs.

The LRAEF is led by a group of industry leaders who serve as its board of directors providing guidance and strategic vision. The varied background and life experiences of the LRAEF board enhances our foundation's mission and service to the public, as well as the foodservice industry.



# 2015 LRAEF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## OFFICERS:

Lenny Raymond  
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**Academic Advisor**

Angie Drago Dye  
*Hammond High  
Magnet School*  
**Academic Advisor**



This premier, nationally recognized two-year culinary arts and management program includes: classroom curriculum, kitchen labs and a 400-hour internship, designed for high school juniors and seniors.

# 2015-2016 LRAEF PROSTART® PROGRAMS

*60 PROGRAMS STATEWIDE WITH MORE THAN  
1,800 STUDENTS*

- Abbeville High School
- Albany High School
- Alfred Bonnabel Magnet Academy  
High School
- Ascension Parish ProStart
- Belaire High School
- Caddo Career & Technology Center
- Career Magnet Center
- Chalmette High School
- College Street T & I Vocational Center
- Covington High School
- Denham Springs High School
- Donaldsonville High School
- East Iberville High School
- East St. John High School
- Edna Karr High School
- Eunice Career & Technical  
Education Center
- Fontainebleau High School
- Franklinton High School
- French Settlement High School
- Grace King High School
- Hammond High Magnet School
- Hospitality & Senior Care  
Training Institute
- Iberia Parish Career Center
- John Ehret High School
- Lakeshore High School
- Leesville High School
- Live Oak High School
- Louisiana School for the Deaf
- Mamou High School
- Mandeville High School
- Mansfield High School
- Morgan City High School
- Natchitoches Central High School
- North Caddo High School
- North Vermilion High School
- Northeast High School
- Pearl River High School
- Pineville High School
- Rayne High School
- Red River High School
- Richwood High School
- Risingold High School
- Salmen High School
- Slidell High School
- Springfield High School
- St. Charles Satellite Center
- St. James Parish Career &  
Technology Center
- St. Martin Parish College & Career  
Readiness Center
- Sulphur High School
- Tara High School
- Terrebonne Career & Technical  
High School
- W.D. & Mary Baker Smith Career Center
- Walker High School
- Washington Career & Technical  
Education Center
- West End Instructional Center
- West Feliciana High School
- West Monroe High School
- West St. John High School
- Woodlawn High School
- Zachary High School

# LRAEF LOUISIANA SEAFOOD PROSTART STUDENT INVITATIONAL

The LRAEF hosted the 14th Annual Louisiana Seafood ProStart Student Invitational March 3-4, 2015 at the New Orleans Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, La. Nearly \$1.2 million in scholarship opportunities were offered to the students whose teams placed in the top three in the culinary and management competitions. This year was the third and final year of the Louisiana Seafood Promotion & Marketing Board serving as the competition's title sponsor.

The competition features two primary components: the Culinary Competition, where teams demonstrated their creative abilities through the preparation of a three-course meal, with at least one type of Louisiana seafood, and the Management Competition, where teams demonstrated their knowledge of the restaurant and foodservice industry by developing a restaurant proposal, delivering a verbal presentation and applying critical thinking skills to challenges managers face in day-to-day operations.

The winning teams in 2015 were: Lakeshore High School in culinary and West Feliciana High School in management. Both teams received an expense-paid trip to represent Louisiana in the National ProStart Student Invitational in Anaheim, California in April 2015.



# SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The purpose of the Fund is to provide an opportunity to further educate ProStart students, culinary and hospitality students, industry employees and educators. Candidates may apply for one of two scholarships within the LRAEF Scholarship Fund—the LRAEF/NRAEF Co-Branded Scholarship and the LRAEF General Hospitality Scholarship.

**:: In 2015, the LRAEF awarded \$70,000 in scholarships to 33 students.**

**:: From the fund's inception in 2009 to 2015 the LRAEF has awarded over \$270,000 in scholarships.**

The 2015 scholarship recipients were recognized at the 2015 LRAEF Five Star Futures Gala August 8, 2015 at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside.



*The LRAEF/NRAEF ProStart Scholarship is a co-branded scholarship awarded to students who are former ProStart students and those who have received the ProStart Certificate of Achievement.*

*The 2015 recipients were:*

**LIANA AUCOIN**

graduate of Slidell High School, attending Louisiana Culinary Institute

**COLIN BERTHELOT**

graduate of Lutcher High School, will attend Louisiana Culinary Institute

**VICTORIA CART**

graduate of Sulphur High School, attending the Chef John Folse Culinary Institute at Nicholls State University

**LAUREN FENDLASON**

graduate of Hammond High Magnet School, attending the Chef John Folse Culinary Institute at Nicholls State University

**JESSICA FORET**

graduate of Grace King High School, attending Delgado Community College

**SAVANNAH HALL**

graduate of Ponchatoula High School, will attend Louisiana Culinary Institute

**TATE JONES**

graduate of Dutchtown High School, attending Johnson and Wales University

**MEIFUNG LIU**

graduate of Fontainebleau High School, will attend the Chef John Folse Culinary Institute at Nicholls State University

**JORDAN McCLELLAND**

graduate of Dutchtown High School, attending the Chef John Folse Culinary Institute at Nicholls State University

**MALLORY MILLER**

graduate of Sulphur High School, attending the Chef John Folse Culinary Institute at Nicholls State University

**THIEN NGUYEN**

graduate of Dutchtown High School, attending the Chef John Folse Culinary Institute at Nicholls State University

**RACHEL MCKENNA OPBROEK**  
graduate of Caddo Magnet High School, will attend Northwestern State University

**EDNA PHARES**  
graduate of Hammond High Magnet School, attending Louisiana Culinary Institute

**SADIE POCHE**  
graduate of Lutcher High School/St. James Career Center, attending the Chef John Folse Culinary Institute at Nicholls State University

**MALLORY WYBLE**  
graduate of Beau Chene High School, attending South Louisiana Community College

*The LRA Leadership Scholarship is awarded to students who are currently enrolled or have been accepted in a hospitality or culinary degree seeking program.*

*The 2015 recipients were:*

**SUNNI AUTHEMENT**  
graduate of South Terrebonne High School, attending the Chef John Folse Culinary Institute at Nicholls State University

**BRICE DAVIS**  
graduate of St. Scholastica Academy, will attend the Chef John Folse Culinary Institute at Nicholls State University

**VERONICA BRUNO**  
graduate of Mount Caramel Academy, attending University of New Orleans

**GARRETT COUVILLON**  
graduate of Marksville High School, will attend Louisiana Culinary Institute

**TONYA CARTER**  
graduate of Glen Oaks High School, attending Louisiana Culinary Institute

**JOANNA EURAQUE**  
graduate of East Jefferson High School, attending Louisiana Culinary Institute

**TASHIRA GREEN**

graduate of Zachary High School,  
attending the Chef John Folse  
Culinary Institute at Nicholls  
State University

**CHAYIL JOHNSON**

graduate of Abeka Academy/  
New Orleans Center for the  
Creative Arts, will attend  
Johnson & Wales University

**APRIL LEE**

graduate of East St. John High  
School, attending the Chef John  
Folse Culinary Institute at  
Nicholls University

**KELLY MAY**

graduate of George County High  
School, attending Louisiana  
Culinary Institute

**LATASHA PIERRE**

graduate of Warren Easton  
Fundamental Senior High School,  
will attend Louisiana Culinary  
Institute

**MICA SALTER**

graduate of Port Allen High  
School, attending Louisiana  
Culinary Institute

**TERRA SMITH**

graduate of Kingwood High  
School, attending Louisiana  
Culinary Institute

**TRACI VINCENT**

graduate of Baton Rouge Magnet  
High School, attending Louisiana  
Culinary Institute

**KE'UNA WOODS**

graduate of Pineville High School,  
attending Northwestern State  
University

## JIM FUNK SCHOLARSHIP

In 2015, **Kerry Ford** received the LRAEF's most prestigious award, the Jim Funk Scholarship. It is named for the former LRA President & CEO. Ford is a graduate of Destrehan High School/St. Charles Satellite Center and is attending the Chef John Folse Culinary Institute at Nicholls State University.

## LOUISIANA SEAFOOD SCHOLARSHIP



Established through a generous gift from the Louisiana Seafood Promotion & Marketing Board, the Louisiana Seafood Scholarship was awarded to **Rachel DeFelice** in 2015. The scholarship criteria seeks qualified applicants who express an interest in cultivating, protecting and promoting Louisiana seafood. DeFelice is a graduate of Grace King High School and is attending the Chef John Folse Culinary Institute at Nicholls State University.

## LRA CENLA CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP

Through the generous support of the LRA Cenla Chapter, this scholarship is awarded to qualified applicants from the chapter's 11-parish area. In 2015, the LRA Cenla Chapter Scholarship was presented to **Sara Howard**, graduate of Oak Hills High School and attending the Chef John Folse Culinary Institute at Nicholls State University and **Bianca Jones**, graduate of Natchitoches Central High School and attending Louisiana State University.

# POST-SECONDARY PARTNER SCHOOLS:

**Chef John Folse Culinary Institute at Nicholls State University**

*14 Scholarship Recipients*

**Louisiana Culinary Institute**

*11 Scholarship Recipients*

**Johnson & Wales University**

*2 Scholarship Recipients*

**Northwestern State University**

*2 Scholarship Recipients*

**Delgado Community College**

*1 Scholarship Recipient*

**Louisiana State University**

*1 Scholarship Recipient*

**South Louisiana Community College**

*1 Scholarship Recipient*

**University of New Orleans**

*1 Scholarship Recipient*

## **Additional Schools Offering Scholarships:**

**(from the Louisiana ProStart Student Invitational)**

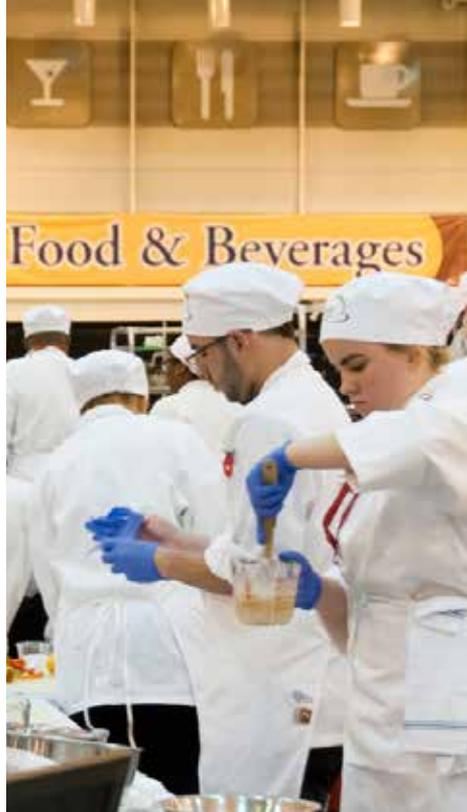
**The Art Institutes**

**Auguste Escoffier School of Culinary Arts**

**Culinary Institute of America**

**New England Culinary Institute**

**Sullivan University**



# STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

In 2015 the LRAEF maintained these strategic partnerships:

- Through a generous grant from the Louisiana Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board (Louisiana Seafood), ProStart students have been learning about an important natural resource—Louisiana seafood. A supplemental curriculum on Louisiana seafood to enhance the existing ProStart learning objectives was developed. Additionally, a stipend was provided to each ProStart program to give instructors additional tools to incorporate Louisiana seafood into their classroom activities.

Louisiana Seafood continued as title sponsor of the ProStart Student Invitational, where competing teams featured Louisiana seafood in their dishes and menus.

- The LRAEF and the George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts (GRFA) partnered on an art-inspired cookbook— The Pot & the Palette. The 2013 GRFA annual art contest for high school juniors and seniors in Louisiana was themed “Louisiana’s Culinary Heritage,” which generated more than 600 pieces of remarkable artwork.

LRA members and ProStart students statewide submitted recipes, which were paired with GRFA contest finalists’ artwork to produce a brightly-colored, uniquely Louisiana cookbook sold online and in bookstores to support the joint mission activities of both foundations.



LOUISIANA  
**ProStart**  
National Restaurant Association  
Educational Foundation

RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION  
EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

LOUISIANA  
**ProStart**

# ANNUAL PARTNERS

## 5 DIAMOND



## 4 DIAMOND



## 3 DIAMOND



## 2 DIAMOND



# 2015 DONOR HONOR ROLL

## **\$25,000 AND ABOVE**

Louisiana Restaurant Association  
Louisiana Seafood Promotion &  
Marketing Board  
LRA Baton Rouge Chapter  
LRA Greater New Orleans Chapter  
National Restaurant Association  
Educational Foundation  
Ralph Brennan Restaurant Group

## **\$15,000 - \$24,999**

Acme Oyster House  
Auto-Chlor Services  
Louisiana Hospitality Foundation  
LRA Acadiana Chapter

## **\$10,000 - \$14,999**

Performance Foodservice-Caro  
Sysco Foodservice

## **\$5,000 - \$9,999**

Atmos Energy Corporation  
Ben E. Keith  
LRA Bayou Chapter  
LRA CENLA Chapter  
LRA Northshore Chapter  
MMI/Mr. Mudbug  
New Orleans Food &  
Wine Experience

## **\$2,500 - \$4,999**

Coca-Cola  
Community Coffee Company  
Crescent Crown Distributing  
Alice & Brodie Glenn  
Louisiana Culinary Institute  
LRA Northeast Chapter

Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers  
Whole Foods Market

## **\$1,000 - \$2,499**

Caesar's Entertainment  
Capital One  
Capitol City Produce  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Funk  
Giacona Container Company  
LRA Northwest Chapter  
LRA Southwest Chapter  
Select Properties, Ltd. Realty  
Taste Buds Management  
Tiger Athletic Foundation

## **\$1 - \$1,000**

AdGas/Bayou Boiler  
Adler's Jewelry  
American Luxury Limos  
Glen Armantrout  
Arnaud's Restaurant  
The Audubon Group at  
Morgan Stanley  
Victor Balbuena  
Lisa Baldwin  
Barcadia  
Barmetrix  
Baton Rouge Epicurean Society  
Bridgit Bellini  
Michelle Bertucci  
Alexandre Bonin  
Erica Burns  
Caire Hotel and Restaurant Supplies  
Cater 2 Cater  
Centerpoint  
Country Club of Louisiana  
Nadine Dix

Melissa Dixon  
Don's Seafood and Steakhouse  
Caitlin Dziedzic  
Kalee Eason  
Emeril's  
Ernest's Orleans Restaurant  
Jennifer Fedrick  
Galatoire's Restaurant  
Grub Burger Bar  
HARO  
Mr. & Mrs. Stan Harris  
Leanne Higgins  
Dennis Hymel  
Jennifer Jeansonne  
Marijane Jeansonne  
Juban's Restaurant and Catering  
Robert King  
Linda Lagasse  
Yesenia Lockhart  
Felicia Lovince  
Jan Macaluso  
Brandy Matherne  
Mel's Diner  
Richard McCurdy  
Mosca's Restaurant  
Zak Mouton  
Mr. B's Bistro  
Nicaud and Sunseri Law Firm  
Novare  
Tammy Opbroek  
Petroleum Club of Lafayette  
Leann Poirier  
Jan Provenzano  
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Queyrouze  
Lenny and Lynn Raymond  
Reinhart Foodservice  
Restaurant R'evolution

Stuart Richeson  
Michelle Richoux  
Sandy Riddle  
Royal Sonesta  
Ruffino's Restaurant  
Pamela St. Pierre  
Denise Schmidt  
Jerry and Barbara Schultz  
Debra Scott  
Sherry Sewell  
Southern Mailboxes and Accessories  
Randy Stein  
Cynthia Stewart  
Thompson Packers  
Villere's Florist  
Walk-On's Bistreaux  
Warehouse No. 1 Restaurant  
Wendy Waren  
Jodi Williams  
Wyoming Office of Tourism  
Marybeth Yrle  
Melvin Ziegler

# 2015 REVENUE: \$453,277

- Over twenty-five percent of overall financial support was derived in 2015 from the contributions of the nine LRA chapters
- Roughly fifty percent of revenue was derived from the support of our corporate partners
- The remainder of revenue was from grants, special events and other contributions

# 2015 EXPENSES: \$518,218

- Over \$226,000, or roughly forty-five percent of the total expenses in 2015 funded Louisiana's ProStart Program
- \$70,000 was allocated through the LRAEF Scholarship Fund
- The LRAEF ended 2015 with approximately \$1.3 million in net assets
- Served 60 schools and approximately 1,800 students



**LRAEF PRESIDENT & CEO  
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*For more information, or to make a contribution,  
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**LOUISIANA RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION  
EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

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