



INTERCONTINENTAL® HOTELS OF SAN FRANCISCO & CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO ANNOUNCE 9TH ANNUAL CULINARY CLASH COMPETITION

Student cooking competition and scholarship fundraiser kicks off in March with Culinary Arts and Hospitality Students

Video Highlight of a 2019 Dinner: <https://bit.ly/2OqBXKy>

San Francisco (February 19, 2020) – Ten students in **City College of San Francisco's (CCSF)** Culinary Arts & Hospitality Studies have been chosen to participate in the annual Culinary Clash at the **InterContinental San Francisco's Luce** restaurant and **InterContinental Mark Hopkins' Nob Hill Club**. In its 9th year, the program invites culinary students to take over the hotel restaurant kitchens for an evening, mentoring under the executive chef and presenting their own menus on a designated night starting on March 7. The students compete for scholarship monies and a portion of each menu sold during each dinner goes to the culinary department's Chuck Williams, Williams-Sonoma Scholarship Fund. The Culinary Clash has raised more than \$60,000 for local scholarship to date.

Following an internal competition in late 2019, the ten students were organized into teams of two and were tasked with conceptualizing a three-course menu for service. For some students, the competition is their first time in a professional kitchen and for others, they grew up in family-owned restaurants. Representing the immediate Bay Area and as far away as Thailand, these ten students have entered the Culinary Arts & Hospitality Studies as career changers as well as first time college students, bringing with them their own passions and culinary inspirations which are represented on their menus.

“This is our second year in the Culinary Clash, and it is such an incredible opportunity for our students,” says Lorna Shea, CCSF Program Advisor for the Culinary Arts and Hospitality Studies Department. “We are

so proud and impressed with the students who take part in the program and grateful to the hotel culinary teams for giving them a unique experience outside of our classrooms.”

The Culinary Arts and Hospitality Studies Department at CCSF was founded in 1936 and is one of the longest running culinary programs in the country. Its graduates have gone on to own and operate renowned restaurants in the Bay Area and include Jeff Hanak (Nopa, Nopalito, Liholiho Yacht Club), Belinda Leong (b. Patisserie) and Sam Mogannam (Bi-Rite).

HOW IT WORKS:

CCSF students are invited to submit menus and recipes to their advisors and the hotel team. They are asked to prepare them to fit within a particular price point and style to mimic a working kitchen environment. The selected students are then organized into teams of two and work closely with the chefs at [Luce](#) at the InterContinental San Francisco or [Nob Hill Club](#) at the InterContinental Mark Hopkins on refining their menu and executing it for their night of service.

Culinary Clash dinners include an appetizer, entrée, and dessert as well as an optional wine pairing. The three-course menu is \$40 per person and an additional \$25 for the wine pairing, excluding tax and gratuity. Menus are judged by a panel of hotel executives, local tastemakers and influencers, and food writers, as well as guests of each restaurant that evening. One winning CCSF team from each hotel will be named and announced in early April.

UPCOMING DINNERS:

Upcoming dinner dates are as follows.

- Saturdays – March 7, 14 and 21 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at **Nob Hill Club** at the InterContinental Mark Hopkins (One Nob Hill); for reservations contact Nob Hill Club 415-392-3434 or visit [Resy](#).
- Sundays – March 22 and March 29 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at **Luce** at the InterContinental San Francisco (888 Howard Street); for reservations contact Luce at 415-616-6566 or visit [OpenTable](#).

Winners of the local Culinary Clash competition go on to compete in the Ultimate Culinary Clash where they vie for additional scholarship with InterContinental Hotels & Resorts properties from across North America. This event is held on May 6 at the InterContinental Mark Hopkins. Last year, the CCSF team at Luce at the InterContinental San Francisco took home top honors and will be defending their title in 2020.

Reservations are required and seating is limited. For more information on Luce at the InterContinental San Francisco or Nob Hill Club at the InterContinental Mark Hopkins as well as further details on the

Culinary Clash, please visit www.intercontinentalsanfrancisco.com or www.intercontinentalmarkhopkins.com.

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ABOUT INTERCONTINENTAL SAN FRANCISCO

Located in San Francisco's urban SOMA district, the InterContinental San Francisco is a 4-star luxury hotel adjacent to the recently expanded Moscone Center and within a short, scenic stroll of the city's financial, entertainment and shopping districts. The InterContinental San Francisco offers 556 guest rooms, including 14 suites, featuring a stunning duplex Presidential Suite with sweeping city skyline and San Francisco Bay views. The Hotel's 43,000 square feet of meeting and function space includes two spectacular ballrooms and 21 meeting rooms on the 3rd, 4th and 5th floors, where flexible configurations provide for events requiring 400 to 1,600 square feet. Establishing new standards for design, luxury, amenities, and commitment to guest satisfaction, the Hotel offers the Michelin-starred Luce Restaurant and lobby level Bar 888, in addition to a state-of-the-art fitness center and indoor heated lap-pool. InterContinental San Francisco is located at 888 Howard Street in San Francisco. www.intercontinentalsanfrancisco.com or 415-616-6500

ABOUT INTERCONTINENTAL MARK HOPKINS

Located on the top of prestigious Nob Hill at the intersection of California and Mason Streets, the InterContinental Mark Hopkins, a historic landmark, is a regular stop on the California Street cable car line. Just minutes away from the financial and theatre districts as well as Union Square and Chinatown, this hotel is also home to the Top of the Mark, the world-renowned 19th floor sky lounge that offers panoramic views of the San Francisco Bay Area. For more information and to make reservations, contact the Mark Hopkins, Number One Nob Hill, San Francisco, Calif. 94108, at 415.392.3434 or 800.NOB HILL (662-4455), or by visiting <http://www.intercontinentalmarkhopkins.com>.

ABOUT CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO

For 85 years, City College of San Francisco (CCSF) has been the region's premiere public, two-year community college. The college is now one of the first in the nation to offer free tuition, providing San Franciscans with the opportunity to access a quality college education and workforce training that leads to university transfer and good jobs. Since its founding in 1935, City College has evolved into a multicultural, multi-campus community college that is one of the largest in the country. CCSF offers more than 250 degrees and certificates and features an award-winning athletics program. For more about City College of San Francisco, please visit <https://www.ccsf.edu/>.

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