



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: Alyssa Harasim  
Michigan Restaurant Association  
(517) 377-3928



## CALL FOR PRESS PASSES

### Request Credentials for Michigan ProStart® Competition

**Dates:** Sunday, March 13 & Monday, March 12  
**Times:** March 13 – 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; March 12 – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
**Location:** Bavarian Inn Lodge, 1 Covered Bridge Ln, Frankenmuth, MI, 48734

#### 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. Sixty-four teams representing the culinary programs at 20 career and technical centers from across Michigan compete in six disciplines: culinary, management/ entrepreneurship, food safety, nutrition, menu design, and table top design. 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 will represent Michigan in Charleston SC, from April 28-April 30, 2017, competing against other teams from across the country at the 16<sup>th</sup> 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 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 5,000 students participating. For more information about ProStart, contact Amanda Smith at 800-968-9668, visit [mraesf.org](http://mraesf.org), or find us on Twitter and Facebook.

#### Who is Involved?

Bay-Arenac ISD Career Center  
Branch Area Careers Center  
Calhoun Area Career Center  
Careerline Tech Center  
Clare-Gladwin RESD  
DCTC @ Riverview Community High  
Gaylord High School  
Gratiot Isabella Technical Education Center  
Iosco RESA  
LISD TECH Center

Oakland Schools Technical Campus Southeast  
Oakland Schools Technical Campus Northwest  
Plymouth-Canton Educational Park  
Saginaw Career Complex  
South West Washtenaw Consortium (SWWC)  
Tuscola 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:

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

**Learn more about the Michigan ProStart Program:**

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

**About the Michigan Restaurant Association**

The Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA) is the recognized leader of Michigan's hospitality industry, providing essential services to the foodservice community. Founded in 1921, the MRA represents nearly 4,500 Michigan foodservice establishments. The industry plays an integral role in Michigan's economy, employing more than 421,000 people and creating \$15.4 billion in annual sales.

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