

CONTACTS:

Michael Garbin  
(312) 435-4822  
e-mail: [garbimi@ulcc.org](mailto:garbimi@ulcc.org)

Brent T. Frei  
(847) 882-5499 (direct)  
(847) 910-1149 (cell)  
e-mail: [btfrei@aol.com](mailto:btfrei@aol.com)

## Windy City Chefs Announce 2006 Award Winners

**CHICAGO, February 28, 2007** – Michael Garbin, CEC, AAC, president of Windy City Professional Culinarians, announced recipients of 2006 awards at the association's annual gala for 2007 at Washburne Culinary Institute on Feb. 19. Recipients were:

- **Chef of the Year** – Matthew Southard, CEC, executive chef, Prestwick Country Club, Frankfort, Ill., and vice president, Windy City Professional Culinarians.
- **Pastry Chef of the Year** – Michelle Garcia, owner, The Bleeding Heart Bakery, Chicago.
- **Chef Professionalism Award** – Gary Mann, CEC, director of retail and culinary support, Sodexo, Chicago.
- **Educator of the Year** – Michael Artlip, CEC, CCE, chairman, associate of applied science (AAS) culinary-arts degree program, Kendall College, Chicago.
- **Student Culinarian of the Year** – Bernadette Mercado, cook II, Union League Club, Chicago.
- **Hermann G. Rusch Chef's Achievement Award** – Stephen J. Miller, CMC, vice president of logistics, operations and planning, Mac One Midway, LLC, Chicago (award named after the late renowned executive food director of the AAA five-diamond-rated Greenbrier in White Sulphur Springs, W.Va.). Miller is one of only 61 American Culinary Federation-certified master chefs (CMC) in the nation.

ACF Windy City Professional Culinarians, a chapter of St. Augustine, Fla.-based American Culinary Federation, Inc., upholds the highest standards of cooking in greater Chicago and promotes the culinary profession locally through education and certification and by fostering a fraternal bond of respect and integrity. All segments of foodservice are represented by the association's nearly 250 members. For more information, visit [www.acfwindycitychefs.org](http://www.acfwindycitychefs.org).

**Photo ID (l. to r.):** Michael Artlip, Bernadette Mercado, Matthew Southard, Stephen J. Miller, Michael Garbin. Not pictured: Michelle Garcia, Gary Mann. Photo credit: Jeff Brown.

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