

Marshall High School's Culinary Academy Team is Winner of Real Food for Kids' 6th Annual Culinary Challenge

Winning vegetarian meal to go on school lunch menu in five of the region's school systems

GREAT FALLS, Va., March 21, 2018— Marshall High School's (Falls Church, Va.) Culinary Academy students took first place in Real Food for Kids' 6th Annual Culinary Challenge last weekend. Students Coleman Wirth, Bryce Daniels, Alex Siviter, and Linda Mach, under the direction of Chef Ciaran Devlin created a meal of Black Bean Taquitos, Roasted Vegetable Medley and Chile con Fruta. Their meal will appear on lunch menus in 15 schools in Washington, D.C. (schools with food management by D.C. Central Kitchen), Fairfax County, Prince William County, Alexandria City and Arlington.

Second place went to Sandburg Middle School (Alexandria, Va.) students Dianna Rivera, Henry Porter, Arabella Cyre, Samantha Duncan led by Family & Consumer Sciences Teacher, Heather Jones, with their Black Bean Burger with Mock Guac and Kale Apple Salad.

Lake Braddock Secondary School (Burke, Va.) took third place with their unique Somalian Hashi with Rice and Tofu paired with sliced peaches and Greek yogurt. Students Ayasha Wariach, Leslie Fernandez, Garrett DeJesus, Diana Nguyen were led by Family and Consumer Sciences teachers Toshieba Ragland and Thom Prassa.

The event was held at Hayfield Secondary School in Alexandria and featured nine student teams from Fairfax County Judges included celebrity chef David Guas of Bayou Bakery along with school nutrition experts and students. The culinary teams were challenged with making a vegetarian menu item.

The students' recipes were vetted in advance for compliance to USDA standards. Each student team was allotted a budget of \$1.80 per meal for their menu creation.

"I was so impressed with the culinary abilities of the students," said Ype Von Hengst, executive chef and co-owner/founder of Silver Diner and Silver. Von Hengst emceed the event. "Their use of flavors and spices was exceptional."

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Real Food for Kids is a Fairfax-based non-profit that has emerged as a trusted partner with school systems in elevating the quality and character of school food. For more information about our mission and programs, visit www.realfoodforkids.org.