



**“You have no choice as a professional chef:
you have to repeat, repeat, repeat, repeat until
it becomes part of yourself.”**

— Chef Jacques Pépin



The Legends Of The Stove



PRESENTED BY THE

· DETROIT · ATHLETIC · CLUB ·

A historical gathering of iconic
Metro Detroit chefs, restaurateurs,
& front of the house legends.

Hosted by
Executive Chef Shawn Loving, CMC

Opening Comments by
JoAnne Purtan

January 15th, 2024

A Visionalist Entertainment Production





From medieval times, chefs and their kitchen brigades played a vital role in the success of the nobility. But following the French Revolution in 1799, the culinary teams of kings and queens cast off what was a rigid system of trade guilds to bring forward fine-dining restaurants. Still, the hierarchical structure of tightly operated kitchens remains in place. In fact, the double breasted chef's jacket is a lasting vestige of culinary leaders; evoking the venerable roots of military ranks.

The emblematic curtain to the back of the house finally opened a half century ago, led by legendary Master Chef Milos Cihelka of the Detroit Athletic Club. In 1972, he founded the Michigan Chefs de Cuisine Association, an organization that serves to lift the public profile of culinary teams while raising money for charities. On this night, we celebrate the role of the "celebrity chefs" who have served to render our region as a culinary destination while supporting the greater good in our community.

Hosted by Master Chef Shawn Loving, it's fitting that the DAC and so many of our fine restaurants young and old are represented at this extraordinary occasion. With their steadfast support and vision, we acknowledge those who have served to heighten our palettes and enlighten our senses in ways unimaginable more than a century ago. To be sure, the DAC played a vital role in establishing the culinary standards and professional service that first emerged in Europe, along with sourcing the finest wines and spirits the world has to offer.

As part of the festivities this evening, a PBS documentary is being filmed by Chef Keith Famie, an Emmy award winning director and producer. "Detroit: The City of Chefs," which will celebrate our current culinary masters and those from the past, will have its red carpet premiere this fall in the Motor City.

There is no need to "act" tonight, rather embrace the moment, enjoy the culinary food salon displays prepared by the student teams at Schoolcraft College, Oakland Community College, and Macomb Community College, and savor the moment of being a part of history in the making with The Legends of the Stove — a tribute to our region's culinary heritage. — R.J. King, Author and Editor, DBusiness Magazine

THANK YOU TO OUR EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS
Tony & Mary Schimizzi / John & Carole Kulhavi / Roger & Mary Kreager



THANK YOU TO OUR CURRENT SUPPORTERS OF THE FILM



Gift bags courtesy of Chef Source

Tonight's Featured Culinary History Makers

Chef Shawn Loving
 Loving Spoonful,
 Schoolcraft College,
 Detroit Athletic Club

Chef Brian Polcyn
 Pike Street, Five Lakes Grill,
 Forest Grill

Chef Ed Janos
 Money Tree, Too Chez

Chef Jeff Baldwin
 Van Dyke Place, The Whitney,
 J. Baldwin's

Chef Paul Grosz
 Raphael's, Cuisine,
 Schoolcraft College

Chef Jimmy Schmidt
 London Chop House,
 Rattlesnake Club

Chef Rick Halberg
 Tweeny's, R.I.K.'s, Emily's

Chef Luciano DelSignore
 Bacco Ristorante, Bigalora,
 Casa Pernoi

Chef Greg Upshur
 Cousins Heritage Inn,
 Too Chez, Ford's Estate

Chef Jeff Gabriel
 Grosse Pointe Yacht Club,
 Les Auteurs, Schoolcraft College

Chef Steve Allen
 The Golden Mushroom, Steve & Rocky's

Chef Nick Apone
 Intermezzo, Nino Salvaggio
 International Marketplace

Chef Joseph Decker
 Golden Mushroom, Awrey's Bakery,
 Schoolcraft College

Chef Kevin Gawronski
 Schoolcraft College

Chef Dan Hugelier
 London Chop House,
 Detroit Athletic Club,
 Schoolcraft College

Chef Marcus Haight
 The Lark, Schoolcraft College

Chef Milos Cihelka
 London Chophouse,
 Detroit Athletic Club,
 The Golden Mushroom

Chef Anthony Lombardo
 SheWolf Pastificio & Bar

Chef Kevin Brennan
 Club Recess, Orchard Lake
 Country Club, Detroit Athletic Club

Chef Keith Famie
 Chez Raphael, Les Auteurs, Forte

Chef Douglas "Duglass" Grech
 Pontchartrain Hotel, The Great Dane,
 Restaurant Duglass

Chef Mike Ransom
 Ima

Chef Terence Tarver
 Saint John's Resort

Chef Jeff Hammer
 Detroit Athletic Club

Chef Jim Oppat
 Andiamo Ristorante, Joe Muer Seafood,
 Statler French American Bistro

Chef John Vermiglio
 Grey Ghost

Chef Kelli Lewton
 Two Unique Caterers &
 Event Planners

Chef Chris Misiak
 Schoolcraft College

Chef Mary Brady
 Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro,
 Schoolcraft College

Chef Heather Moore
 Schoolcraft College

Chef Brian Beland
 Country Club of Detroit,
 Schoolcraft College

Chef Scott O'Farrell
 Macomb Community College

Chef Doug Ganhs
 Oakland Community College

Joe Muer Jr.
 Joe Muer Restaurants

Mickey Bakst
 Tapawingo, Tribute

Joe Vicari
 Joe Vicari Restaurant Group

Adrian Lark
 The Lark

Madeline Triffon
 London Chop House,
 Rattlesnake Club, Plum Market

Ted Gillary
 Detroit Athletic Club



These clay puppet creations are part of a collaboration with Detroit's College for Creative Studies Entertainment Arts department. They will come to life in a stop motion sequence for **Detroit: The City of Chefs**.

TONIGHT'S CELEBRATION SUPPORTS THESE AMAZING METRO DETROIT ORGANIZATIONS:

