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## The Importance of Vocational Education in High Schools

### Inside this issue:

*The Bad News about Diabetes* 2

*Kimchee* 2

*Food Film Fest Cont.* 3

*Lunch Behaviors* 6

*Earn 3 CEH Credits* 6

*Vegan/Gluten Free Bake Club* 7

Vocational education programs have been around since the early 1900's, however, the principle of vocational education has been around for some time before then. Vocational education is defined as training for a specific vocation in industry or agriculture or trade. As the labor market becomes more specialized and economies demand higher levels of skill, governments and businesses are increasingly investing in the future of vocational education through publicly funded training organizations and subsidized apprenticeship or traineeship initiatives for businesses. This being said, it becomes imperative to start early and invest in the future by introducing vocational schools in high school students.

In my experience as a culinary arts student at Middle Bucks Institute of Technology, vocational education has been a useful tool towards my future in hospitality

management. MBIT has given me and other student's specialized education geared towards our future careers. Students who are not interested in the traditional four year college, as well as students who have trade specific college program goals are sure to find an educational safe haven in a vocational education program.

To students of vocational education programs, it is more than just specialized job training. Students who are enrolled in set programs have access to a number of bonus programs. Skills USA, a national organization geared towards ensuring America has a skilled workforce, makes it their mission to ensure every student excels. The American Culinary Federation has a partnership with vocational education programs sponsoring them as well as awarding students a Junior Culinarian certification upon graduation from the program. Vocational schools help students

do what they want to do in school, whether it is culinary arts, multimedia, plumbing, etc. These programs are valuable, not only in producing skilled members of future workforce but providing a creative outlet for those students who are interested in hands on, career specific education.

Vocational education is on the rise, In light of today's economic turmoil; vocational education is a safe educational platform. Take Culinary Arts, everyone's got to eat, this being said a vocational career centered on culinary arts would in most cases be a career that never decreases and is always on the rise

Vocational education is necessary for students in high school; access to this worthwhile educational endeavor sets many students on the right track to a profitable and enjoyable trade.

*Submitted by Matthew Kelly,  
Junior ACF Member*

### Please RSVP

If attending the General meeting please call or email Maria Campbell by the second Monday of each month at:

[rsvpphilly@gmail.com](mailto:rsvpphilly@gmail.com)

General Admission:  
Active members \$15  
Students /Seniors \$10  
Guest \$20

### 2011 NYC Food Film Festival

"Dinner for Two: An Edible Valentine in Three Acts" has been named an "Official Selection" of the 2011 NYC Food Film Festival where it will compete in the New "Best Food Porn" category, judged on the spectacular visual presentation of the food on the screen. Jennifer Armentrout, editor of *Fine Cooking*, made the announcement. Part food porn, part how-to, the short film documents the making of

a three-course meal and includes romance, suspense, and murder. The film was directed by videographer John Craig Ross and produced by Sarah Breckenridge, senior web producer of *Fine Cooking*. The film will premiere at the Festival's first-ever Food Porn Party on Saturday, October 15th, at Tribeca Cinemas located at 54 Varick Street, New York, New York, with showtimes at 7:00 and 7:30 p.m.

Produced in association with the James Beard Foundation and benefiting the Food Bank for New York City, the NYC Food Film Festival is one of the country's most beloved film festivals and the largest of its kind in the world. Now in its fifth year, it is the only festival that serves the food that is seen in the films. Through documentaries, features and short films, the Festival presents the best, and the most memorable, of the world's