

ITALIAN OPEN

Rich LoRusso Culinary Scholarship Award

underwritten by

The St. Louis Italian Open Charity for Children, Inc.

The St. Louis Italian Open Charity for Children, Inc. (IO), in conjunction with the ACF Chefs de Cuisine Association of St. Louis Inc., is seeking qualified applicants for the Rich LoRusso Culinary Scholarship Award and the chosen applicant will receive up to \$5000 towards tuition.



Rich LoRusso was a warm, affable, and gregarious personality. LoRusso's Cucina provided guests an excellent culinary experience for over 35 years. More importantly, Rich generously helped fund countless charities in the St. Louis area during his entire professional life. From proud Italian roots originating on the Hill, he was a true pillar of the community. Rich loved to celebrate life, food, wine, and his Italian culture. An Italian Open honoree and board member, we are very moved to create a scholarship in his memory to honor his generous contributions to the community. This award will be given annually to a candidate who has serious career interests in the culinary and hospitality industry.

Rich LoRusso Culinary Scholarship Award Guidelines

Applicant must be a high school senior residing in the St. Louis metropolitan area seeking to enroll in an ACF (American Culinary Federation) accredited post-secondary culinary arts program and demonstrate a desire to continue studies in the field of foodservice and/or hospitality with an emphasis in cooking, baking or food and beverage.

Applicants will be considered based on the following criteria:

- Academic coursework completed and endorsement by high school officials.
- Extracurricular activities including sports, clubs, and other school activities.
- Volunteer work including community service and charitable activities.
- Previous experience working in a restaurant and an endorsement by supervisor.
- Other pertinent facts or circumstances the committee may wish to consider.
- Special consideration shall be given to applicants who have worked at an Italian restaurant located in the St. Louis metropolitan area.

The Rich LoRusso Scholarship Award Committee will review applications. If necessary, the scholarship committee may interview the most qualified applicants whether in person, via video call or conference call if possible. Applicants receiving this scholarship will be notified, in writing, and the check will be made payable in the applicant's accredited culinary program and awarded at the IO annual awards dinner.

Should there be any unused portion of this scholarship grant, by virtue of the recipient's withdrawal from school, the school shall return the remaining funds to the IO.

Application must be filled out completely and have all appropriate signatures. A transcript release is attached which must be signed and given to the appropriate school. At least one (1) letter of recommendation from teachers or present or past employers must be submitted. It is recommended applicant's school and present or past employers, if applicable, provide references to attest to the student's proficiency, aptitude, character, and general interest. No more than three (3) letters of recommendation will be accepted. Only those that have a complete application, transcript, personal statement, and letter of recommendation on file with the IO will be considered for this scholarship. Relatives of any IO board member are not eligible for this award. **THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS JUNE 15th.**

Rich LoRusso Culinary Scholarship Award Application

Personal Information

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Birthdate _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Parents' Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

If you are currently employed, please complete the following:

Name of Establishment _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Supervisor _____ Hours per Week _____ Wages \$ per Hour _____

Name of school in which you are currently enrolled:

Name _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Full-time or Part-time Student? _____ Semester Hours Completed _____

Semester Hours Remaining _____ Graduation Date _____

Name of Post-Secondary School for which scholarship will be used:

Name _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Have you been accepted at this institution? Yes _____ No _____

Academic Achievements

Current GPA _____

Overall GPA _____

ACT /SAT Score _____

Awards _____

Extracurricular Activities

Sport(s) _____

Varsity Letters _____

Clubs _____

Awards _____

Volunteer Work

Community Service _____

Charitable Work _____

Personal Statement

In a brief written statement on separate document, please explain why you are qualified to receive this scholarship. Please attach your written personal statement to this application.

Employment Experience

Employer	Position	Dates	Hours/Week
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

To the best of my knowledge, all the information contained herein is accurate and true.

Applicant's Signature _____

Date _____

Please send application, personal statement and letter(s) of recommendation by the **June 15th deadline** to address below or scan & email to: **mikediraimondo@gmail.com**

**St. Louis Italian Open
Rich LoRusso Scholarship Award Committee
12511 Sunset Drive.
St. Louis, MO 63128**

Updated: 11 14 22