



OCTOBER 2024



Dear Fellows,

I ask all the AAC Fellows to celebrate the resilience of our ACF/AAC Fellows, members, office team and their families!

I hope this message finds you safe and recovering. As I reflect on the recent hurricane that impacted the Southeast, I want to extend our heartfelt admiration for your resilience and strength during this challenging time.


Facing a hurricane is never easy, and the collective spirit shown by our culinary community has been truly inspiring. Many of you came together to support one another, demonstrating the power of unity and compassion. Your efforts to help neighbors and lend a hand in the aftermath have not gone unnoticed.

As we all continue to navigate the recovery process, please remember that we are here for you. The ACF/ACC is committed to providing resources and support to help our community heal and rebuild. Whether you need assistance, information, or just someone to talk to, do not hesitate to reach out to a Fellow and/or to the [ACF Wellness Resources](#).

Also, the [ACF Disaster Relief](#) Program is available to members. Learn more about applying for funds or, if it's possible, [DONATE](#) to support this incredible initiative.

Below is a copy of an email that was sent to all members last week with additional information that might be of help to you.

Together, we will emerge from this experience stronger than before. Thank you for your courage and determination.



**Joe G. Aiello, CEC, AAC, HOF**  
Chair, American Academy of Chefs



In light of the recent hurricanes that have affected so many in our culinary community, the American Culinary Federation is launching a disaster relief initiative to help those who may have lost jobs find employment opportunities for the holiday season.

We're offering 100 complimentary 30-day job postings on the [ACF Career Center](#), available to any property looking to hire, especially for seasonal roles. By using the promo code **ACFRELIEF100**, employers can post positions at no cost, making it easier to connect displaced chefs with job opportunities.

#### **How You Can Get Involved**

- If your property is hiring and you need qualified culinary staff for the holiday season, please take advantage of this offer to [post your openings for free](#).
- If you're a chef looking for work, or you know others who are, visit the [ACF Career Center](#) to browse available positions and connect with employers.
- We encourage you to share this opportunity with chefs across the Southeast—whether or not they are ACF members—as we strive to support the entire culinary industry during this challenging time.

Together, we can make a difference and help our colleagues get back on their feet.

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## **AAC Officer Nominations**

### **2025 - 2027 Term**

Nominations for AAC Chair and Vice Chair opened at the 2024 AAC Annual Fellows Meeting. Nominations will remain open through December 1, 2024.

Additional information can be found on the [Academy Elections](#) webpage.

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## 2025 American Academy of Chefs Applications

### **Membership - Connection - Involvement**

The "Prestigious Honor Society" of the American Culinary Federation offers a unique way to honor those who have worked hard and risen through the ranks of the culinary field. A successful application for acceptance as an AAC Fellow will serve as the culmination of years of involvement in the great culinary profession, and as an ACF member.

An Academy Fellow must request an application for a potential inductee. Candidates will need two sponsor letters of recommendation from voting Academy Fellows. An Academy Fellow is permitted to sponsor one new applicant per year, as is a Regional Director.

Applications must be returned by December 1st, 2024. Induction will be at the 2024 ACF National Convention.

Applications for American Academy of Chefs Induction for 2025 are now available. You can review the current requirements on how to become an American Academy of Chefs Fellow, [HERE](#)



## 2025 Hall of Fame

"The Culinary Hall of Fame was unanimously accepted by the Academy members. Its concept is to honor those men and women who, because of their outstanding attributes, have won the respect and love of their professional guild. Therefore, they are so honored by their peers as a positive reflection to all those in this profession who seek achievement!"

— *Hermann G. Rusch*

**Applications for American Academy of Chefs Induction for 2025 are now available.**

[CLICK HERE](#) to request an application.

Applications must be returned by December 1st, 2024. Induction will be at the 2024 ACF National Convention.

## **We would love to hear from you!**

We would like to hear what great things our Academy Fellows are doing. Email Karen Stamper at [kstamper@acfchefs.org](mailto:kstamper@acfchefs.org) with events, pictures, and acknowledgements about AAC Fellows and we will post in the monthly Academy Connection.

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## Tax-Deductible Donations

(September 1, 2024 - September 30, 2024):

Philip H. Jones, HAAC, HBOT  
Kirk Kief, CEC, CCA, CPC, AAC

### DONATE NOW

Donations, as many as you choose to make in any given year, are welcome at any time. On behalf of the entire Academy family, we thank you again for your generous support. Donations may be made by check mailed directly to the Academy Office, online, or via credit card. Please contact the Academy Administrator at [academy@acfcchefs.org](mailto:academy@acfcchefs.org) if you have any questions.

**THANK YOU to all of our 2024 Donors!**

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## 2024 AAC Sponsors

We would like to thank our sponsors for their continued support of the American Academy of Chefs and their mission.



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Through the Academy Connection e-newsletter, the American Academy of Chefs provides members with news and information on products and services offered by the AAC®, its partners and American Culinary Federation.

**American Culinary Federation**

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