



DECEMBER 2024



Dear Fellows,

As we approach the end of the year, I want to take a moment to reflect on all we've accomplished together and express my deepest gratitude for your dedication, passion, and unwavering commitment to the culinary arts.

This year has been one of growth, collaboration, and resilience. We have continued to support one another in our shared mission to elevate the craft of cooking and bringing people together through food.

Looking Back:

From our successful Annual Induction Meeting and Dinner in Phoenix, Arizona, to the launch of the AAC for the ACF Scholarship initiative with the HUNCH/NASA program for young students, it's been a year of significant progress. We have made great strides in reviewing and updating AAC policies and procedures, and I'm proud of the work we've done to strengthen our Academy.

Looking Forward:

As we enter the holiday season, it is a time for reflection and renewal. Let us celebrate the joy and warmth that food brings into our lives. Whether you're preparing a festive meal for your loved ones, working on a special event, or simply enjoying a well-deserved break, I encourage you to take this time to reconnect with the heart of what we do—creating memorable experiences through food.

A Heartfelt Thank You:

I am continually inspired by the creativity, skill, and financial generosity that each of you brings to the table. The Academy is stronger because of you. I am proud to serve as your Chairman and look forward to the exciting opportunities and challenges that the new year will bring.

On behalf of Chef Reimund Pitz, CEC, CCE, AAC, HOF and myself, I would also like to express our gratitude for your confidence in us, allowing us to continue leading the Academy for another two-year term.

Wishing You and Your Loved Ones a Joyous Holiday Season:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, ACF Office Team, Vice Chair Chef Reimund Pitz, CEC, CCE, AAC, HOF and Karen Stamper, AAC Program Manager,

we wish you all a holiday season filled with peace, joy, and, of course, delicious food. May the new year bring you continued success, inspiration, and fulfillment in both your professional and personal lives.

Thank you for being an integral part of our Academy family. I look forward to all the incredible things we will accomplish together in the year ahead.

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo!



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

2025 ACF Convention

Las Vegas, July 27–31, 2025

Convention planning is in full swing! Get ready for exciting agenda announcements, a new events-focused website, and highlights on competitions, pastry, and certification. Registration is officially OPEN!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

[BOOK HOTEL HERE](#)

Details about the AAC Dinner at the 2025 ACF National Convention will be announced soon. We're excited to collaborate with the talented chefs at Caesars Paris as we plan an unforgettable evening. Stay tuned—this year's AAC Dinner promises to be one for the books!

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 with events, pictures, and acknowledgements about AAC Fellows and we will post in the monthly Academy Connection.

Tax-Deductible Donations

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

Douglas A. Fisher, CEC, CCE, 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 if you have any questions.

THANK YOU to all of our 2024 Donors!

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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