

# 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 15<sup>th</sup>.**

# *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

## ***Transcript Release Form***

Applicant must process this form so that Selection Committee receives information at designated deadline.

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Name

ID #

I authorize the

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(School name)

to release my transcript of grades to the St. Louis Italian Open for Children's Charities Inc. for use in determining my eligibility for a the Rich LoRusso Culinary Scholarship Award. I understand that I will be responsible for any cost associated with sending this transcript.

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Applicant Printed Name

Applicant's Signature

Date

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School Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Please send transcript(s) by the **June 15<sup>th</sup> deadline** to the address below or scan & email to: **mikediraimondo@gmail.com**

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

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