For Immediate Release

Kendall College School of Culinary Arts Students Earn Sixth Straight Win at American Culinary Federation Regional Knowledge Bowl

Gold-medal-winning team will vie to reclaim national title in Orlando this summer.

Chicago—April 22, 2015—A team of six students enrolled in the Kendall College School of Culinary Arts earned the winner’s trophy and gold medals at the Central Regional Baron H. Galand Culinary Knowledge Bowl on April 14 at the American Culinary Federation’s (ACF) 2015 ChefConnect: Indy in Indianapolis. This is the sixth consecutive year that a Kendall team has swept this annual regional competition to qualify for finals.

The Kendall College team, consisting of Alex Gabrielson (captain; Pella, Iowa), Mike Kubiesa (Elmhurst, Ill.), Michael Lanzorotte (Bloomington, Ill.), Emily Mankus (Lincolnshire, Ill.), Nelia Salvi (Madison, Wis.) and Alex Szabo (Prescott, Ariz.), competed against student teams from professional foodservice-training programs at schools throughout the ACF’s Central Region stretching from Minnesota and Michigan to Texas and Louisiana.

As Central Regional champion, Kendall’s team—representing The School of Culinary Arts’ associate and baccalaureate programs—will compete for the national title against the winning Western, Southeastern and Northeastern regional teams on Aug. 1 at the ACF’s 2015 National Convention in Orlando. The team with the highest score will be named the national ACF Baron H. Galand Culinary Knowledge Bowl winner for 2015.

“I am in awe of the talent our students showcased today,” said chef-instructor and team coach Dina Altieri, CEC, CCE, following the competition. “Our team has been well managed from the start, with great leadership from a few returning players and back-up alternates who have supported the team’s goals.”

The Kendall team will seek to earn back its national chops at 2015’s final competition in Orlando. Kendall College won the national championships at the ACF’s annual conventions in Dallas in 2011 and Anaheim, Calif., in 2010.

The Baron H. Galand Culinary Knowledge Bowl tests the acumen of culinary-arts students via a “Jeopardy”-style subjects grid that includes challenging culinary, baking, nutrition, sanitation and math questions as well as sensory perception. The competition is named after the late chef Baron H. Galand, CEC, AAC, who served as national president of the ACF from 1983 to 1987. First held at the ACF’s 1992 National Convention in Washington, D.C., today the four geographic regions of the ACF hold the competition at their respective conferences in winter and spring to qualify teams to compete for the national title at the ACF’s national convention in summer.

About the Kendall College School of Culinary Arts:
Kendall College, founded in 1934, is located in Chicago and is a member of the Laureate International Universities network. Kendall offers undergraduate degrees in business, culinary arts, early childhood education and hospitality management to a diverse and passionate community of more than 1,650 students. The curriculum combines strong academics with practical experience and international educational opportunities that help give students in business, hospitality and culinary arts programs the skills and expertise
to be leaders in their professions. Kendall College was ranked the number one program in Chicago for preparing students for careers in hospitality management and culinary arts in a survey of hiring managers at Chicago's leading hotels and Michelin Guide restaurants (TNS Global – 2013 Survey). The American Culinary Federation Education Foundation Accrediting Commission has accredited the Culinary Arts associate program since 1988 and the Baking and Pastry associate program since 2008. Kendall College is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission (HLC.) For more information, visit Kendall.edu.

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Kendall College’s 2015 Central Regional Baron H. Galand Culinary Knowledge Bowl team (l. to r.): Mike Kubiesa, Emily Mankus, Michael Lanzerotte, Chef Dina Altieri, Alex Szabo, Nelia Salvi and team captain Alex Gabrielson. (Note to media: A high-resolution image is available.)