

By Tony Burton • Dec 10, 2025

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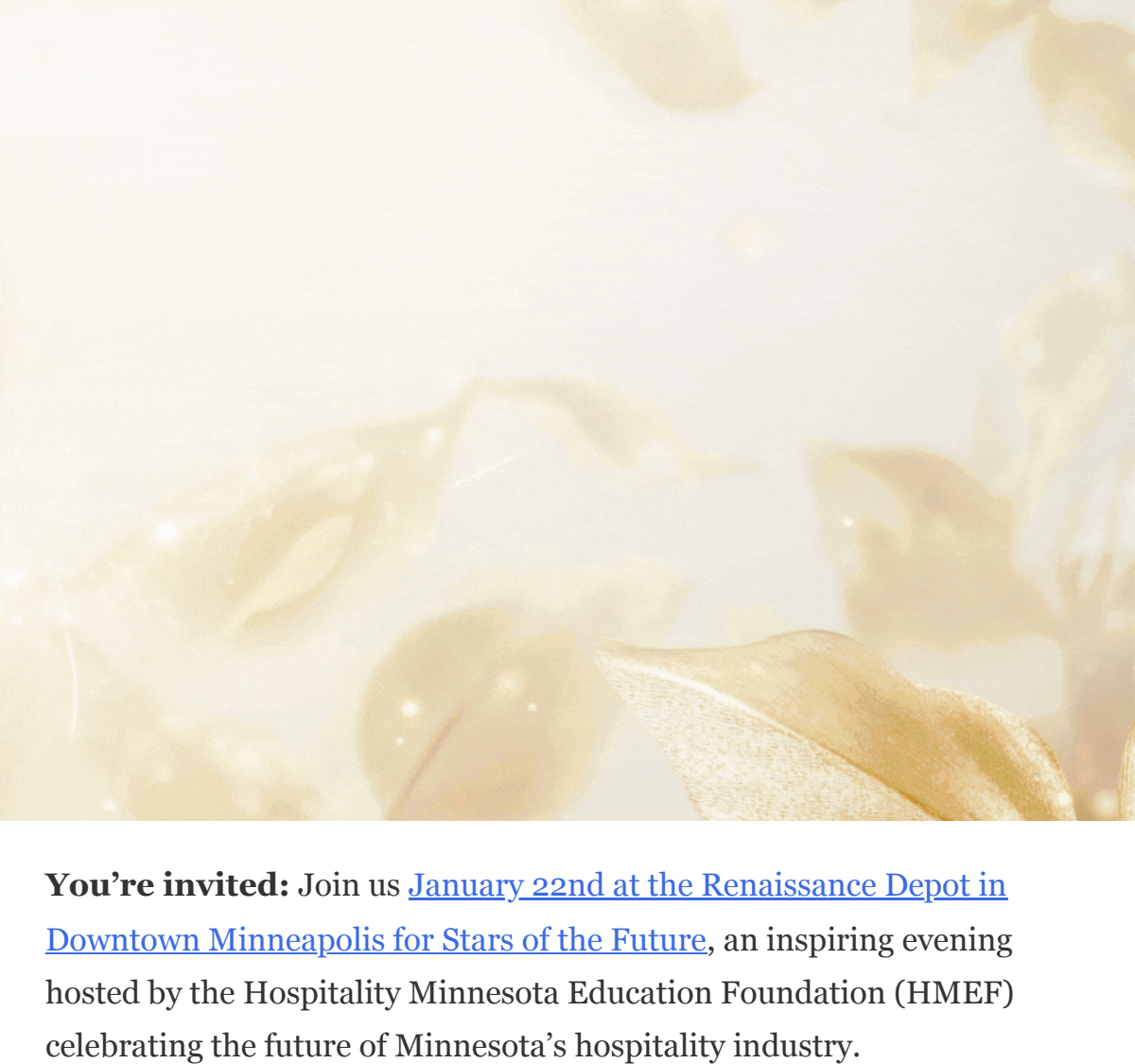
We would like to thank our Workforce Insider Sponsor - [Sheraton Minneapolis Downtown Convention Center](#) - for their contributions and commitment to Minnesota's hospitality industry!

Support the Foundation and its work of investing in our industry's future by training the workforce of today and inspiring the leaders of tomorrow:

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## You're Invited: Stars of the Future



**You're invited:** Join us [January 22nd at the Renaissance Depot in Downtown Minneapolis for Stars of the Future](#), an inspiring evening hosted by the Hospitality Minnesota Education Foundation (HMEF) celebrating the future of Minnesota's hospitality industry.

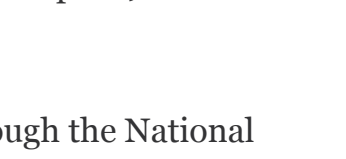
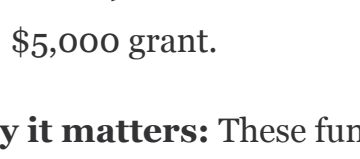
- **About the event:** Stars of the Future is more than a fundraiser to support Minnesota students pursuing their dreams in culinary, lodging, tourism, and hospitality management—it's a night featuring the culinary talents of 15 Minnesota high schools that will celebrate the spirit, drive, and potential of our industry's future workforce.

**Why it matters:** Your participation supports HMEF's mission of investing in our industry's future by training the workforce of today and inspiring the leaders of tomorrow. HMEF has made a tremendous impact on students across Minnesota offering the ProStart and Hospitality & Tourism Management career-building programs to schools.

- **How to participate:** Purchase tickets, sponsor a table, or donate an auction item to make an impact. Together, we can celebrate today's students and invest in tomorrow's hospitality leaders.

[Register Here](#)

## Brooklyn Center and Roosevelt High Schools Awarded 2025 Rachael Ray Grow Grant



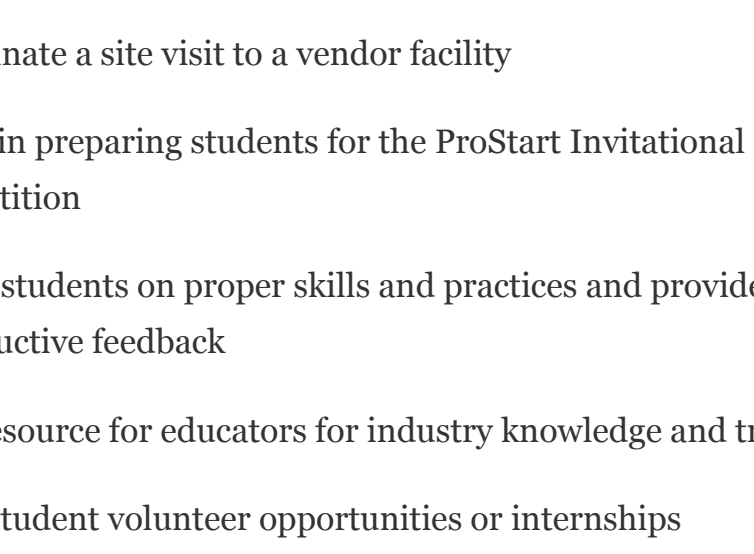
**Celebrations are in order!** We're thrilled to announce that not one but TWO Minnesota high schools have been selected as recipients of the 2025 [Rachael Ray Foundation ProStart Grow Grants](#)!

- **The awarded schools,** Brooklyn Center High School (Brooklyn Center) and Roosevelt High School (Minneapolis) will each receive a \$5,000 grant.

**Why it matters:** These funds, awarded through the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (NRAEF) in partnership with the Rachael Ray Foundation, will be used to enhance their ProStart culinary and restaurant management classrooms, providing students with critical resources and hands-on learning experiences to prepare them for successful careers in our industry.

- **Yes, and:** This investment in our state's future hospitality workforce is a testament to the dedication of the ProStart educators and the hard work of these students!

## Volunteer Mentors Needed: Share Your Industry Experience



**Calling all mentors:** ProStart schools throughout Minnesota are looking for mentors to help prepare their students for the MN ProStart Invitational and beyond.

- **Why it matters:** Being a mentor helps further your own career journey and allows you to share your industry experience and insights. Mentors provide guidance, support, and expertise to help students develop the skills needed for successful careers in the food service industry.

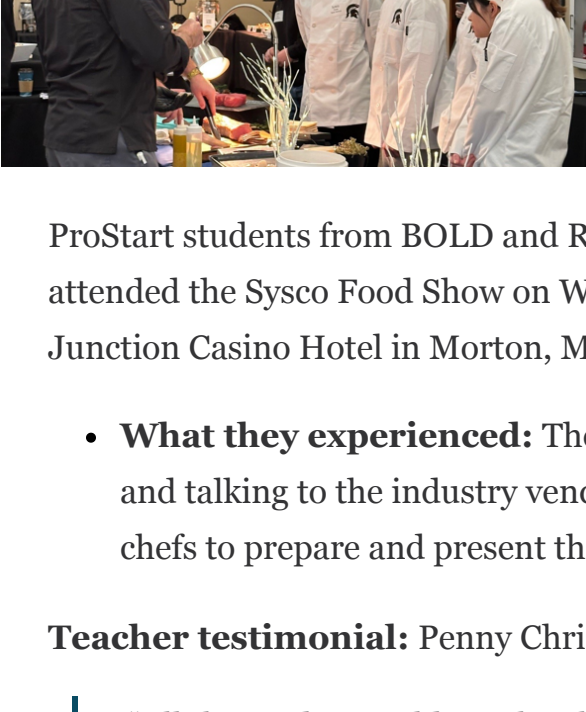
### As a mentor you could:

- Host a tour of your operation
- Guest speak in the classroom to offer real-world insights
- Present hands-on lessons and demonstrations to students
- Coordinate a site visit to a vendor facility
- Assist in preparing students for the ProStart Invitational competition
- Coach students on proper skills and practices and provide constructive feedback
- Be a resource for educators for industry knowledge and trends
- Offer student volunteer opportunities or internships

**The bottom line:** Providing industry connections like this is what makes ProStart unique from other culinary arts programs. We need your support to make this happen.

- **Reach out today:** If you are interested in being a mentor, contact [Victoria](#) to connect you to a ProStart school near you.

## Hilton Rochester Mayo Clinic Tour Garner's Media Attention for Hospitality Career Day

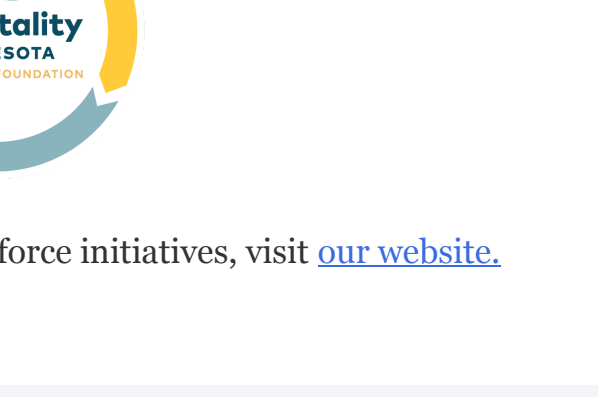
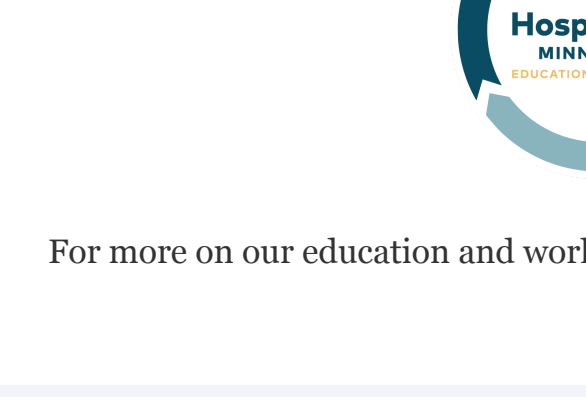
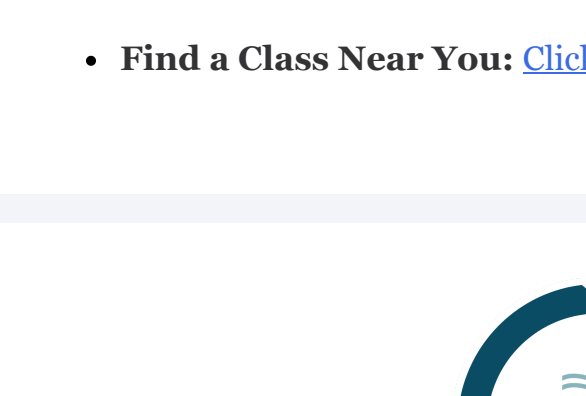


**Catch up:** On Friday, November 21, Hilton Rochester Mayo Clinic Area, J. Powers at the Hilton, and Hospitality Minnesota Education Foundation teamed up with John Marshall High School to provide students with an immersive look into careers in hospitality.

- **What happened:** The event featured hands-on experiences in hotel operations, food and beverage service, culinary arts, sales and marketing, and VIP concierge services.

**See for yourself:** Both [ABC 6 News in Rochester](#) and [KIMT News 3](#) covered the event on their stations.

## ProStart Students Attended Sysco's Food Show in Morton, Minnesota



ProStart students from BOLD and Redwood Valley High Schools attended the Sysco Food Show on Wednesday, December 3, at Jackpot Junction Casino Hotel in Morton, Minnesota.

- **What they experienced:** The students enjoyed seeing, tasting, and talking to the industry vendors, and some were paired with chefs to prepare and present the food booths.

**Teacher testimonial:** Penny Christy of BOLD High School, said:

"All the students told me they had a wonderful time, and it was the best field trip ever. One student even came up to me at the event and said he is thinking about being a chef."

**Thank you to Chef Nick Meurett** and the entire Sysco team!

## Get ServSafe Certified with Food Safety Guy!

**Hospitality Minnesota** has partnered with FoodSafetyGuy to bring you exclusive discounts on ServSafe Food Protection Manager certification courses, materials, exams, and recertification.

**Why it matters:** ServSafe is the gold standard in food safety training, trusted by professionals worldwide. Boost Confidence & Compliance: Enhance your knowledge and ensure your establishment meets all food safety regulations.

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