

## PRESS RELEASE

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**Photo:** From left to right, back row: Cheautenae Anderson (Whitehall), Molly Johnson (Fruitport), Briana Anderson (Oakridge), Alex Frein (Orchard View), and instructor Elissa Penczar. From left to right, front row: Aubrey Meyer (Fruitport), Heather Murphey (Reeths-Puffer), Megan Peer (Reeths-Puffer), Bronson Dodge (Oakridge), and Sean McDermott (Holton).

### Culinary students hone their job seeking skills

LANSING: On Monday, April 8, 2013, nine Muskegon Area Career Tech Center Catering & Culinary Management students took part in Getting Hired 101, an innovative professional skills development day for ProStart® students piloted by the Michigan Restaurant Association Educational Foundation, held at the Lexington Hotel in Lansing, MI. A team of industry executives and professionals from companies like Millennium Restaurant Group, DiamondRock Hospitality Company, Aubrey's, Bagger Dave's, Biggby Coffee, Buffalo Wild Wings, Gordon Food Service, LaBelle Management, and the Michigan Restaurant Association volunteered their time to coach students through multiple job interviews, critique their resumes, and teach them about interpersonal communication skills, professional dress requirements, and business dining etiquette.

Keynote speaker Brad Hansen, President and CEO of LaBelle Management told his story and advised students that, "The harder I worked, the luckier I got!" Ken Wasco, of Gordon Food Service, told students that, "The best thing to do is listen!"

The coaching and personal feedback from the professionals attending that day made an impact on the students in attendance. MACTC student Alex Frein shared that, "The interviews really helped...I have a lot more confidence now." Fellow MACTC student Molly Johnson benefited from the experience as well noting that, "Eye contact, listening, smiling... they're really important." The time sacrificed by the volunteers that day did not go unnoticed or unappreciated. "I really liked the speakers, the teamwork everyone showed...I loved that they gave a day of their time to teach us," shared MACTC student Sean McDermott.

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