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Culinary Arts Scholarship Application

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When asked as to why I enrolled in culinary school, the simple answer is... because I love the way people smile when they taste something I have created and it just makes their day. As in life, there is no limit in the culinary arts as to how much you can learn and improve. One chef can spend their whole life perfecting a particular cuisine and then pass on that knowledge to the next generation for them to further even more. From farm to table to family, every element is so important to understand and by going to culinary school, I will be able to learn from and be surrounded by people who share my love and passion for culinary and pastry arts.

I have always had a love for baking, but it was because of the support of my homeschool-teacher parents that I was able to turn that love into a business. When I was twelve, I opened my own bakery, and became ServSafe certified. At 14, I became the only owner of an in-home certified bakery in the State of Indiana and still am to this day. I have successfully managed "Nina's Belicious Bakery" for over five years now and it has been the best learning experience I could have ever asked for. Along the way, I've made thousands of cupcakes, many wedding cakes, assisted with catered events for our church where I had to bake for anywhere between 1000 to 1500 people on multiple occasions, and still love it as much as the day I started.

Once I am done with school, I plan to either further expand my bakery business or take another path and work as a wedding cake designer. Whatever happens, I do know that I plan to use everything I learn in culinary school to bring joy to the lives of others. That's one of the reasons I plan to volunteer for at least six-months in the kitchen and bakery at NPH orphanage in the Dominican Republic (as I have on three previous shorter mission trips.) I have been given so much, and would love nothing more than to be able to share that with those in need. Growing up, owning a business, and working towards culinary school has been quite the journey, with plenty of hurdles, roadblocks and speed bumps along the way. However, they all helped form me into who I am today.