

7/24/2025

To whom it may concern:

My name is Bryson [REDACTED] and on June 16th of this year, I graduated from the Minnesota Partnership's Advanced Culinary Arts Program. I am writing this letter to express my gratitude for, and share my experience in the program.

I'll start by telling you how I "stumbled" upon the program.

Growing up my love's passion for cooking was awakened by my Mother, Grand Mother, Great Grand Mother, and Aunties. I come from a large family and cooking always brought us together. It's a way of expressing love and appreciation for the people closes to me. I like to say it's my love language. Initially, I just wanted to stay up late on holidays and taste all the food. That quickly turned into me wanting to create all the things myself. The women in my life were a big influence on my cooking, and the feeling I got when someone finished their plate or complimented my food was unmatched.

My mother and I had an amazing relationship, she was more than just my mom, she was my friend. I am the oldest of 7 children and cooking was my alone time with my mom. We watched a lot of cooking shows together, it was how we bonded. I feel like cooking and being of service to others has always been my purpose. It's what I love to do!

My mother
died Feb 26, 2014 the day after my birthday. It was
sudden and unexpected, she was 49 years old.

Long story short, I have been through a lot of things
in my life. I have always worked in the restaurant
industry. I have been a dishwasher, prep cook, cook,
head cook, shift leader, Kitchen Manager (In training?). I
say that to say that through everything I always ended
up in a kitchen.

I contacted Jenew and told him that as much as I
wanted to do it, I had too many burdens to give it
my all. Jenew heard me and he offered a helping
hand, he gave me the space I need to get everything
I could out of the course. He gave me some
financial literacy, because growing up I wasn't
taught that. I can go on and on about the impact that
Jenew has had on my life. He has helped me set myself
up for success, he has shown me kindness, compassion,
and grace in a very trying time in my life. I thought
I was about to lose everything I had worked so hard
for. This program has been a peak in the valley that I
was in, it restored my hope, and gave me a second
chance to live in my purpose.

Thank You

Brynn