

Welcome to the Grand Finale, where 15 inspiring talents will compete to be crowned the world's best young chef

I am delighted to welcome you to Milan for the S.Pellegrino Young Chef Academy Grand Finale, the culmination of a two-year competition to find the world's best young chef.

Launched in 2015 and now in its sixth edition, the S.Pellegrino Young Chef Academy has evolved over the past 10 years into much more than a talent search. It is now a global community of young and senior chefs, with the goal of creating positive change for people and the planet though food. With its ongoing activities, the Academy works to support, connect and inspire chefs by providing networking, education, mentoring and career opportunities.

The Academy also promotes the values of responsibility, inclusivity and sustainability in fine food culture. Naturally, we are committed to making this event as sustainable as possible. For example surplus food from the competition management through Massimo Bottura's Food For Soul; by embodying the "reduce, reuse, recycle" code, we aim for more sustainable logistics. You can learn more on our digital platform dedicated to the event.

With the stage set for the final stage of this inspiring competition, I invite you all to bring your appetite for life, where you will have many opportunities to share it with those around you.

To the 15 young chefs participating in the Grand Finale, I wish you the best of the luck both in the competition and in your careers. Whatever happens here, each of you has a bright future ahead of you.

To the senior chefs who have mentored our young chefs throughout their journey and to the gastronomic gurus of our Grand Jury who now have the task of choosing just one of them, thank you for your valuable contribution and for believing in our ambitious project.

To those of you who stand alongside S.Pellegrino in supporting young chefs and nurturing the future of fine dining, thank you for joining us from around the world and sharing your enthusiasm.

To all the talented members of the S.Pellegrino Young Chef Academy, thank you for helping to make it the eclectic, vibrant, creative, global community it is today.

And finally, to each and every one of you, I urge you to remember that bringing the best of yourselves to the table is the best recipe for creating a future full of goodness and flavour.

Bring your future to the table. See you soon!

President & CEO Sanpellegrino Group

Michel Beneventi