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**Triton College**

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### **Triton College HIA Students Participate in Efforts to Address Food Insecurity at “Empty Bowls”**

RIVER GROVE – Students from Triton College’s Hospitality Industry Administration (HIA) will be participating in the fundraiser “Empty Bowls” on Friday, March 1, 6-8 p.m., at Oak Park and River Forest High School (OPRF).

The annual fundraiser welcomes area residents to OPRF for savory soup served in artisanal bowls, with all proceeds benefiting hunger-fighting organizations. OPRF pottery students collaborate with local artists to craft the unique bowls, while nearby restaurants and businesses generously contribute soup and bread to accompany them.

In 2023, the fundraiser gathered 800 people and raised more than \$17,000. More than 1,000 bowls were created and sold, according to Bridget Doherty, an art instructor and teacher sponsor for “Empty Bowls” at OPRF, making it the most successful fundraiser since its inception 20 years ago.

Triton faculty member Chef Manny Uribe is excited that students from Triton’s HIA Catering Management class will be participating in “Empty Bowls.” This is the second year that Triton students will be participating in the event.

Students will be making white chicken chili, sun dried tomato, potato leek, pozole, red basil and manok soups for the occasion.

The students will be making five gallons of each soup, said Uribe, explaining that Triton’s state-of-the-art equipment makes this quantity possible.

“I’ve been in touch with the high school instructors at OPRF because of Triton’s Dual Credit/ Dual Enrollment programs,” said Uribe. “It just made sense for our HIA students to participate in “Empty Bowls.” It’s a learning lesson for our catering class while allowing them to volunteer and get involved in their community.”

The Dual Credit Program enables high school students to take college classes taught at their high school by high school instructors. As for the Dual Enrollment Program, high school students can earn college credit by taking approved courses by their high school on Triton’s campus.

Student Pauline Ocampo is thrilled to make the traditional Filipino soup, manok, a family favorite. The soup consists of chicken and rice with several seasonings, including ginger.

“By using a conversion formula, I can take my family’s traditional recipe and quantify it to feed hundreds of people,” she said.

All proceeds from “Empty Bowls” will be donated to three organizations that fight hunger at local, national and global levels: Housing Forward in Maywood, Beyond Hunger in Oak Park and Global Alliance for Africa in Chicago.

Admission is \$15 for students with an ID and \$20 for community members.

For more information about Triton’s HIA Program, please contact [manueluribeepin@triton.edu](mailto:manueluribeepin@triton.edu) or (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3624.

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#### **ABOUT TRITON COLLEGE**

Triton College is an institution of higher education dedicated to student success. Triton offers more than 120 degree and certification programs, designed for students to realize their career aspirations and effectively compete in a global economy. The college campus spans 110-acres in River Grove, Ill., holds classes at satellite locations and offers online learning opportunities. Triton’s exemplary faculty and staff work to provide high quality, convenient and affordable educational opportunities to more than 10,000 students each year. Triton College is a member of The Community Colleges of Illinois and accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Learn more at [triton.edu](http://triton.edu).