

# Search for the Next Big Chef

Popular competition in Sarawak now looking for participants from the Klang Valley

USCI University has decided to bring The Next Big Chef (NBC), its popular cooking competition for secondary school students in Sarawak, to the Klang Valley and is now calling for submissions.

The competition, which has drawn huge interest among students in Sarawak since 2013, saw more than 100 teams participating last year.

USCI's Kuching campus Culinary Arts Department head Christopher Wan Sageng, said UCSI wanted to help budding chefs further their career.

"We started NBC five years ago and organise it annually. The response has always been fantastic, and we want to channel this interest in cooking to professional careers by offering bursaries as prizes," he said.

Participants stand a chance to win attractive cash prizes and UCSI bursary worth up to RM36,000.

Competing in teams of two, budding chefs in this competition have to pit their skills against each other and impress the professional judges.

In the competition in Kuching last year,

the finalists had to cook a three-course meal using mystery ingredients within two-and-a-half hours.

This year, USCI decided to bring the excitement to the Klang Valley to offer young aspiring chefs the opportunity to take part in the exciting event.

The NBC is open to students in Form Four and Five, with each team comprising two students. Each school is allowed a maximum of two teams. USCI said it expected to accommodate 40 teams.

The preliminary rounds will begin in early April and the grand finale will be held on July 8.

All events relating to NBC will take place at the UCSI campus in Cheras.

Participants will face challenges to test their skills and creativity in ingredient preparation, meal preparation, taste tests and signature dish presentations. Time and financial management are also factors that will be looked at.

For details on NBC, visit [www.ucsiuniversity.edu.my/nextbigchef](http://www.ucsiuniversity.edu.my/nextbigchef) or call 03-91018880 or email [erm@ucsiuniversity.edu.my](mailto:erm@ucsiuniversity.edu.my).



Judges chef Thomas Schmid (left) from Borneo Convention Centre Kuching and MasterChef Asia finalist Jasbir Kaur, evaluating one of the contestant's dishes.



The winning team for the competition in 2015 receiving their mock cheque from Jasbir (right).