MARCOS VARGAS

Culinary Executive and Educator

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LAS DELICIAS, 2434 CALLE VIVAS VALDIVIESO, PONCE PR 00728

EXPERIENCE



Chef and Restaurant Owner

08/2020 - 12/2024

Belgica by Chef Vargas

Ponce, Puerto Rico

Recruited, trained, and supervised staff to uphold high operational standards across all areas of service. Managed budgets, planned menus, and ensured full compliance with licensing, hygiene, and health and safety regulations. Promoted and marketed the business to enhance visibility and drive customer engagement. Oversaw inventory levels, streamlined supply orders, and optimized staff schedules for maximum efficiency and cost control. Liaised with customers, employees, suppliers, and licensing authorities to ensure smooth, professional, and fully compliant operations.

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Bakery Manager

2019 - 2020

Shaw's Supermarket

Merrimack, New Hampshire

Supervised daily bakery operations, upholding high standards of product quality and customer service. Trained and managed staff to maximize productivity and ensure compliance with established guidelines. Oversaw inventory management, implementing accurate forecasting techniques to reduce waste. Developed and executed merchandising strategies to increase sales and drive profitability. Maintained strict adherence to health, safety, and sanitation regulations.

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Kitchen Manager & Head Chef

2017 - 2018

Consulate Health Care

Pensacola, Florida

Addressed resident complaints and ensured exceptional service for 120 residents by supervising food standards, managing cost control, and overseeing staff schedules. Ensured compliance with licensing, union regulations, and hygiene, health, and safety guidelines. Led back-ofhouse operations, motivating the team during heavy shifts, resolving conflicts, and ensuring smooth workflow. Managed work schedules, shipments, cleaning protocols, and temperature logs to maintain operational efficiency. Supervised a team of 9 employees, demonstrating strong leadership and problem-solving skills in a dynamic environment.

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Assistant Manager

2016 - 2017

Ihop

Merrimack, Hampshire

Managed an annual sales volume of \$1.4 million and maintained one of the organization's lowest food costs at 16% by implementing intelligent inventory practices, forecasting weekly volumes, and minimizing waste. Achieved a record single-week sales volume of \$35,000 during the Boston Calling concert series, driving peak performance at the Cambridge IHOP location. Successfully supervised and led a team of 45 crew members, ensuring operational excellence and high customer satisfaction.

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SUMMARY

Experienced Culinary Executive and Educator with over 29 years of expertise in culinary arts, restaurant management, and catering services. Renowned for blending tradition with innovation to create exceptional dining experiences and drive operational excellence. Recognized for achievements in ice carving, and mastery in pastry arts and garde manger, showcasing artistry alongside culinary expertise. Adept at integrating modern technology into culinary operations, optimizing efficiency, and ensuring health and safety compliance. Passionate about mentoring aspiring chefs and fostering a culture of excellence in high-pressure environments.

SPECIAL SKILLS

Fruits and Vegetable Carving

★ Ice Carving

SKILLS

POS & Order Management ·

Microsoft Office Suite ·

Inventory Management Systems ·

Scheduling Software ·

Recipe Costing Software ·

Nutritional Analysis Tools ·

Inventory Software ·

Sales Tracking Reporting Tools ·

Forecasting & Budgeting Tools ·

Digital Temperature Logs ·

ServSafe Online Systems ·

Food Delivery Platforms

CERTIFICATION

Food Safety Manager Certified

Chef to Chef Conference 2025

EXPERIENCE



Manager & Owner

2011 - 2016

Doña Ana & Doña Lidy Catering Service

Ponce, Puerto Rico

Responsible for recruiting, training, and supervising staff, managing budgets, planning menus, and ensuring compliance with licensing, hygiene, and health and safety regulations. Oversee stock levels, supply orders, staff schedules, and customer service, including handling inquiries and complaints. Skilled in promoting and marketing the business, maintaining financial records, assessing profitability, and implementing improvements. Liaise with customers, employees, suppliers, and authorities to ensure seamless operations and drive business growth.



Chef Instructor

2001 - 2011

School of Hotel Administration

Guanica, Puerto Rico

Offer culinary instruction and demonstrate techniques in areas such as Food Safety, Culinary Fundamentals, Nutrition, Garde Manger, and Baking and Pastry. Specialized in advanced topics like À la Carte Cooking, High-Volume Production, Menu Development, and Hospitality Management. Skilled in supervising internships and guiding up to 30 students, fostering hands-on learning and practical skill application.



Sous Chef

1999 - 2000

Le Bistro Five Diamond Restaurant

Fajardo, Puerto Rico

Le Bistro is an exclusive fine dining restaurant reserved for club members of Las Casitas Village, featuring an elegant French menu, a world-class wine list, and curated selections from the renowned Golden Door Spa cuisine. Celebrated for its refined ambiance and exceptional service, Le Bistro offers a culinary experience that harmoniously blends classic French techniques with health-conscious sophistication.



Garde Manger / Ice Sculptor

1998 - 1999

Hilton Ponce Golf

Ponce, Puerto Rico

EDUCATION



Culinary Internship Program

1998

El Conquistador Resort

Fajardo, Puerto Rico



Ice Carving

1997

Culinary Institute of America

Hyde Park, New York



Culinary Arts

1996

New England Culinary Institute

Montpelier, Vermont



Pastry

1992

Sugar Arts Institute

Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico

REFERENCES

Executive Chef Felix Lopez

(939) 265-3956 Cel

Executive Pastry Chef Pedro Alvarez

(706)490-0756 Cel

Food Service Director Linda Wynn

(850)417-2160 Cel

General Manager Trainer Anthony Bravo

(603)-315-5236 Cel

TRAINING / COURSES

Internships

El Conquistador Resort Country Club

Hilton Ponce Golf & Casino Resort 1996

LANGUAGES

Spanish

Native

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English

Proficient



AWARDS

- Community Service POLICIA DE PR
- Student Retention IBC Institute
- Hotel and Tourism Studies Puerto Rico Scholarship Recipient

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Organized First Future
Chef Competition
Instituto de Banca y Comercio

FIVE DIAMOND AWARD GALA DINNER

2000 People plated dinner

Sous Chef five-diamond resorts

Held leadership position at Las Casitas Village, one of only two five-diamond resorts in the Caribbean.

Chef Instructor – 10 Years of Mentorship

Proud of my students and their achievements, many of whom have gone on to lead successful culinary careers.

\$ Bakery Manager at Shaw's Supermarket – Sales Record During Pandemic

> Led the bakery department through the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, achieving recordbreaking sales and receiving two sales performance bonuses for exceeding revenue targets under challenging conditions.