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**Leto Students Taste Success****At Gourmet Competition**

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Article Text:

TAMPA - Gourmets in training from Leto High School landed four stars last weekend, taking second place overall in a statewide culinary competition with scholarship money on the line.

The Leto team, made up of chef instructor Debra Hladky and culinary students Kassandra Gutierrez, Lisa Davis, Edward Newkirk and Elizabeth Torres, qualified for an assortment of scholarships, including a \$5,000 award from **Keiser University**, \$3,000 from Johnson & Wales University and other money for various culinary schools throughout Florida.

The Leto elite also claimed second place in the gourmet meal category, preparing an appetizer, an entrée and a dessert in one hour's time, using two burners.

Teams from King High, Wharton High and Bowers/Whitley Career Center also placed in several categories. Riverview, Chamberlain and Sickles high schools also participated in gourmet meals, edible centerpiece and waiters' relay categories.

The competition was sponsored by Florida ProStart, the educational arm of the Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association.

Yvette C. Hammett

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