



# Chef Stardom: Exploring Opportunities for Chefs to Receive More Notoriety

Kiajah R. Young and Imani C. Love  
Youth Enrichment Services | Annual Research Symposium



## Introduction

Professional chefs play an important part in the food industry. Despite their importance in the industry, many chefs lack recognition and existence. This topic is important to investigate because professional chefs should get more recognition, training opportunities, and other professional experiences. Research shows that chefs are often not as highly regarded as other professionals. This study seeks to investigate how these professionals can become more decorated professionals.

## Research Question

How can professional chefs receive more opportunities for stardom and recognition?

## Hypotheses

There is relationship between chefs exposure opportunities and their stardom and recognition.

## Methods

There were 31 total survey respondents. Our survey consisted of 21 questions. The first set captures personal, demographic information. The second set included things that happens around the neighborhood. The next set explored questions about increasing chef recognition and pay. Respondents were asked the following:

- “Do you enjoy cooking?”
- “Do you believe chefs should get paid more?”
- “Does the professional quality of a chef matter to you?”
- Do you believe that culinary art is a respectable industry and career?
- How can chefs get more recognition for the work they do?

Additionally, researchers distributed their survey by sending links to friends and family through email, text, and phone.

## Results

### Descriptive Statistics:

Our average survey respondent was a black female, 51 and older, and the highest level of education with a bachelor’s degree, living in a house with an income of 25,000 to 50,000.

### Inferential Statistics:

#### *Community-Needs*

- 73.3% of the people feels safe in their community during the day time.
- 30% of the people rated the police protection in their community a 5.
- 10% of the people says parks are what they like about their community.

#### *Study Specific*

- *93% of the people know less than 3 black chefs.*
- *62% of the people believe that cooking shows will help chefs get more recognition.*
- *93% of the people believe that culinary art is a respectable industry and career.*

## Discussion

With any study, there are limitations that must be considered. In our study, we experienced a lack of diversity in population sample - all females took the survey; we need male insight. Also, we did not survey chefs.



## Conclusion

In conclusion, the findings from this study will help professional chefs get more recognition and get people more interested in this topic. The results from our study suggest that culinary arts is more important to people than we thought. Researchers should continue exploring more ways to help professional chefs get the stardom they deserve. In the following studies, researchers should consider tailoring the questions to focus on specific types of chefs and understand the nuances of each professional culinary space.