Innovation Cup
Teams of high school students develop and pitch a concept for a robot, product, app or software to improve the restaurant industry. In this competition, students find creative solutions to our industry’s most pressing challenges.

THE INNOVATION JUDGES

David Bliven
Manager, International Technology // TACO BELL: YUM! BRANDS
- First hospitality job: “Sandwich Artist” Subway (15yrs old)
- “Individual achievements can be great, but bringing others along with you is true greatness.”

Matt Bussak
Instructional Design Manager // URBAN PLATES
- First hospitality job: Ice Cream Scooper at ColdStone Creamery
- “Always be learning something new and always be teaching others what you have learned.”

Will Godoy
Director of Team Member Development // BJ'S RESTAURANTS, INC.
- First hospitality job: Employee at Carl's Jr.
- “Conviction can make a great worker, Loyalty can make a great team member, but having an equal balance of both can build a Career.”

Glenda Vaquerano
Public Relations Manager // THE GALARDI GROUP, INC., WIENERSCHNITZEL
- First hospitality job: Public Relations Manager
- “Find what you're passionate about and build a life around those things because success is not measured by fame and/or wealth but how rich you live your life.”

Joseph Pitruzzelli
Co-Founder // WURSTKÜCHE RESTAURANT
- First hospitality job: Nightclub designer
- "Do what you say you're going to do - there are lots of great ideas and huge ambitions out in the world, but men and women who can execute to bring them to fruition are rare and valuable.”