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# COOKING WITH THE STARS

*“Win an exclusive opportunity to  
live and work in the Basque Country”*

## **BasqueStage**

BasqueStage™ is an educational project that seeks culinary field training for young professionals and recent graduates among the star chefs in the Basque Country – which is one of the world's culinary epicenters. Sammic, the European Manufacturer of Quality Foodservice Equipment, sponsors two BasqueStage Scholarships: Top Chefs and Rising Stars. Since the first edition, we have been honored to have the collaboration of world-acclaimed chef Martín Berasategui, who boasts three Michelin stars at his restaurant of the same name in Lasarte, Gipuzkoa. In this, the fifth edition, we add chef Roberto Ruíz, who was named Best Restaurateur in 2011 by the Basque Academy of Gastronomy. We also will have the support and collaboration of local producers and artisans of Basque Country.

### **V Sammic Scholarship**

Thanks to Sammic, BasqueStage will award two scholarships in this edition:

- **Top Chef Sammic Scholarship:** one talented winner will receive a six-month, all-expense-paid stage, working under the direction of a Basque chef of the highest category as well as the opportunity to tell about their experience to other chefs through the website and blogs created for this purpose. Two of these months will be spent apprenticing with producers and artisans of the Basque region.

Since January 2011, we have had collaboration of 3 Michelin Star and world acclaimed chef Martín Berasategui. The winner of the Top Chef scholarship will have the opportunity to learn from him and his team during a stage in his restaurant in Lasarte, near San Sebastian in the Basque region of Spain.

#### **Top Chef Sammic Scholarship:**

- Four-month stage at Martín Berasategui.
- Two months with local artisans and producers.
- Round-trip flight to Spain.
- Shared apartment.
- 500 euro stipend per month.
- Health insurance coverage.
- Instant social media platform.
- Two scholarships in 2013:
  - January 2013-June 2013** (apply in Aug-Sep 2012) and
  - July 2013-December 2013** (apply in Feb-March 2013).

- **Rising Star Sammic Scholarship:** The other winner will receive a three-month stage, working under the direction of a Basque chef who is on the brink of world culinary stardom.

This is the Rising Star Sammic Scholarship's first round, and we are proud to announce the collaboration of Roberto Ruiz, a Basque chef of the highest caliber. Named Best Restaurateur by the Basque Academy of Gastronomy, Chef Ruiz is passionate about food and obsessed with quality product, and stages will accompany him to farms and

markets. This is a unique opportunity for an authentic culinary experience in the Basque countryside.

#### **Rising Star Sammic Scholarship:**

- Three-month stage with Chef Roberto Ruiz at Frontón, Solana.4 and TPT Bakery.
- Visits with local artisans and producers.
- Shared apartment.
- 500 euro stipend per month.
- Instant social media platform.
- Four scholarships in 2013:
  - January 2013-March 2013** (apply in Aug-Sep 2012),
  - April 2013-June 2013** (apply in December 2012),
  - July 2013-September 2013** (apply in Feb-March 2013), and
  - October 2013-December 2013** (apply in June 2013).

In this, the fifth edition, the Sammic scholarships will be open to persons of all nationalities, as long as they comply with the requirements described in the terms and conditions.

#### **Basque Cuisine**

Nestled on the northern coast of Spain, where the Pyrenees meet the Cantabric Sea, The Basque Country is regarded as one of the world's top culinary destinations, that has witnessed the birth of some of the best of the world's culinary vanguard.

Capital of the Basque province of Gipuzkoa, beautiful San Sebastian is a true city of food lovers. With a population of 180,000, the area boasts hundreds of private gastronomic societies, an endless amount of bars serving a limitless array of "pintxos" (Basque for tapas), and plenty restaurants ranging from just old fashioned good eating to the world's best haute cuisine, with 15 Michelin stars to choose from.

Aside from its culinary attributes, San Sebastian is known for its Belle-Époque Architecture, beautiful beaches, and vibrant musical and cultural and surf scene. This is where Basque Stage takes place.

#### **The Sponsors**

Sammic is one of Europe's leading designers and manufacturers of Foodservice Equipment, specializing in Food Preparation, Food Preservation and Hot Temp Ware Washing. Long time technological partner of Chef Martín Berasategui and based only 30 Km. away from his restaurant, this 50 year old company has just started operations in the US.

# IV Sammic Scholarship

## 1. Participants

- Candidates can be of any nationality.
- Candidates must be of legal age with culinary studies.
- Knowledge of English is mandatory and Spanish will be appreciated.
- Candidates must demonstrate communication skills.
- Capacity for utilizing multimedia tools will be taken into account for the selection of candidates.
- Availability of a computer with an Internet connection will be necessary to apply for the scholarship.

## 2. Resources of the Sammic Scholarship

- In the 5th round of the Sammic Scholarships two candidates will be selected.
- The Sammic **Top Chef** Scholarship consists of a stage lasting four months at the Martín Berasategui Restaurant (3 Michelin Stars), during the first semester of 2013, followed by a series of apprenticeships with local producers: two weeks working on a local farm, two weeks apprenticing at an Idiazabal creamery, and two weeks staging at a rural bakery.
- The Sammic **Top Chef** Scholarship covers the cost of travelling from their home to Lasarte and the housing costs of the selected candidate during the work practice. The housing consists of a shared apartment. In addition the selected candidate will receive an economic contribution of €500/month during the stage. The selected candidate will also receive health insurance through a travellers' insurance agency.
- The Sammic **Rising Star** Scholarship consists of a stage lasting three months at Fronton Restaurant under Roberto Ruiz, during the first cuatrimester of 2013.
- The Sammic **Rising Star** Scholarship covers the housing costs of the selected candidate during the work practice. The housing consists of a shared apartment. In addition the selected candidate will receive an economic contribution of €500/month during the stage.
- After completing the scholarship the candidates may receive the title of "Ambassador of Sammic" -depending on their compliance with the conditions established by Basque Stage- thanks to which they may enjoy special conditions when buying Sammic equipment if they set up their own business. These conditions will be described in detail to the pre-selected candidate before awarding the scholarship.
- At the end of the scholarship, the scholar will receive a diploma certifying the experience and knowledge acquired.

Apart from the opportunity to be part of a world-class kitchen team, candidates will have the option of participating in different activities, both in their free time and on the job:

- Free Time: visit creameries, txakoli bodegas, traditional markets such as those in Tolosa and Ordizia, typical meals in cider houses, etc. They will be accompanied by the BasqueStage coordinators.

- Professional: the coordination of other professional development opportunities for the stages. The options are varied-- for example, an internship in a butcherie across the border in Hendaye, France, where stages can learn to work with meat; an internship in a creamery, where they can learn to make cheese; working with an artisan bakery, and even staging in other restaurants.

### **3. The jury**

The jury will be formed by Martín Berasategui, Roberto Ruiz, members of Sammic and by experts in gastronomy and communication designated by the sponsors of Basque Stage.

### **4. The Selection Process**

The process of selection for the V Sammic Scholarships will be divided into two stages. The first stage is the same for both Top Chef and Rising Stars applicants.

#### STAGE 1:

The first stage will take place between August 20, 2012 and September 30, 2012, after which the applications for the scholarship will no longer be accepted.

To apply, candidates should fill out the form found on the website ([www.basquestage.com](http://www.basquestage.com)), where they will be asked to submit:

- Personal Information
- A document in PDF format with their resumé including personal, academic and work experience data, and any other relevant information.
- Indicate if they are applying for one or both scholarships.
- The address of their personal blog, including other social networks' URLs and usernames if they desire to do so.
- Answer a short question the organizers pose.
- *Candidates accept that their information may appear online.*

October 1, 2012, the names of 30 candidates chosen to proceed to STAGE 2 for each scholarship will be published on the website ([www.basquestage.com](http://www.basquestage.com)) as well as via email.

#### STAGE 2:

In the second stage, the two winning candidates will be chosen.

The second stage will take place between October 1, 2012 and October 22, 2012, at which time the application process will be closed.

To present themselves for the second stage of the selection process, the 30 candidates selected to compete in **Top Chef Sammic Scholarship** should present:

- A video, between one and two minutes, in which the candidate explains who (s)he is, why (s)he wants to participate in BasqueStage, and any other things considered interesting and relevant.
- A post in the candidate's blog (if the candidate has no blog, in his/her newly created blog), in which (s)he shows how to cook a dish chosen by him/her. The post should include at least three photographs taken by the candidate, showing the process of the plate's creation.
- A document in PDF format with an essay extending to a maximum of 1000 words outlining their motivations to present their candidacy to receive the Sammic Scholarship.
- *Candidates accept that the content they submit may be used by BasqueStage to promote the scholarship.*

To present themselves for the second stage of the selection process, the 30 candidates selected to compete in **Rising Stars Sammic Scholarship** should present:

- A post in the candidate's blog (if the candidate has no blog, in his/her newly created blog), in which (s)he shows how to cook a dish chosen by him/her. The post should include at least three photographs taken by the candidate, showing the process of the plate's creation.
- A document in PDF format with an essay extending to a maximum of 500 words outlining their motivations to present their candidacy to receive the Sammic Scholarship.
- *Candidates accept that the content they submit may be used by BasqueStage to promote the scholarship.*

The two winners of the V Sammic Scholarships will be announced via internet on November 1, 2012.

## **5. Obligations of the selected candidates**

- The selected candidate must comply with the work program of his/her corresponding restaurant.
- Meanwhile, the selected candidate must carry out the communication plan established by Basque Stage.
- These obligations will be described in detail to the pre-selected candidate before awarding the scholarship.
- The selected candidates will be held solely responsible for obtaining the visa (only necessary for Top Chef scholars) and any incidental costs incurred while doing so.

## **6. General conditions**

- Sammic guarantees the privacy of the information provided in the resumé. The rest of the content provided will be considered as the property of Sammic and shall be treated under the Creative Commons, Attributive, Non commercial, Share alike license.
- Depending on the candidacies received, the sponsors of the project reserve their right to modify the selection criteria of the scholarship without prior notice. Likewise, the scholarship offer may be considered void if the sponsors consider that the minimum established requisites are not met by candidates.
- The sponsors reserve their right to reject any material received if it is considered to be inadequate for the purpose established.
- The scholarship sponsors are not responsible for the content of the material submitted by candidates.
- In the event that a scholarship holder fails to fulfil their obligations, the scholarship sponsors may interrupt the program.
- The sponsors of the Scholarship are Sammic, S.L. and Martín Berasategui.