

Student chefs showcase talent

DELICIOUS smells filled the air as 18 teams from schools in the Klang Valley showed off their cooking skills when taking part in the Nutri Chef Challenge 2016.

Organised by HELP College of Arts and Technology (HELP CAT) together with Ajinomoto (Malaysia) Berhad, the challenge is designed to showcase the students' knowledge and skills related to developing and following a recipe, preparation of the dish, displaying the dish before the judging session where it would be evaluated for flavour, taste and palatability.

It is open to all secondary school

students in Forms Five and Six and Senior Middle Two and Three in the Klang Valley, to encourage them to consider culinary arts as a career choice.

The Nutri Chef Challenge is popular among secondary schools and provides an ideal training platform for young aspiring chefs.

This is true in the case of Lai Jia Yi, who won Nutri Chef in 2013. He then joined HELP CAT's Diploma in Culinary Arts in 2014 as part of the prize for being a winner.

This year Lai was declared champion in Nestle Professional's

Culinary Arts Award 2016.

A team from Confucian Private Secondary School comprising Sixth Formers Choo Ze Hong and Lee Yong Shun, were named champions in this year's Nutri Chef Challenge.

"It is a dream come true for us.

"We enjoy cooking and have been training under our teacher for the past three years," said Ze Hong and Yong Shun.

They shared the prize money of RM1,000 as well as a 100% fee waiver to pursue the Diploma in Culinary Arts at HELP CAT.

Their winning dishes were "Fish



Best dishes: The champions of the Nutri Chef Challenge 2016 are Yong Shun (left) and Ze Hong.

and Chips Revolution" and "Lava Cake".

The judges were The Malaysian Food and Beverage Executives Association assistant vice-president, Events Leslie Hon Kha Sen, Chef Loke Hoi Weng from UCSI

University and Chef Nor Lizawati Mohd Noor from GiatMara Setiawangsa.

Hon said he was impressed with the high standards of food preparation among the teams who took part in the challenge.