

**Libraries** consistently seek out partnerships within the communities we serve. Our collaborations with W. J. Bryan Elementary School and our Baking & Pastry program at JWU strengthen our library's connections within our North Miami and our university communities.

Big Chef Little Chef is a school year partnership with W. J. Bryan Elementary teachers and students featuring a monthly collaboration which has been an ongoing program for more than 20 years. W. J. Bryan Elementary School's curriculum focuses on nutrition, healthy lifestyles, and growing fruits and vegetables in the garden at the school. When the students visit JWU, they divide into four groups and rotate through the JWU departments of culinary, baking & pastry, athletics, and the library.

To plan our library activities, we referenced the State of Florida's official source for standards information and course descriptions, CPALMS: Collaborate, Plan, Align, Learn, Motivate, Share. CPALMS was created by the Florida Center for Research in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics at Florida State University. This research allowed us to align methodologies with the students' grade levels to introduce healthy lifestyle choices through songs, coloring, fruit puppets, and super-food superhero masks.

By singing, dancing, coloring healthy food choices, identifying photos and pieces of fruits and vegetables, and brainstorming superpowers of a super-food superhero, we incorporated kinesthetic, visual, auditory, and tactile modalities of learning. We designed a creative, fun, and educational program for the students on their field trip to the Johnson & Wales University Library.

## Big Chef Little Chef

W. J. Bryan Elementary School, North Miami



"My super-food superhero power is spitting seeds and planting orchards!"



♪ We're going on a fruit hunt!  
♪ We're going to get apples and grapes!

**The Literary Cake Contest** exhibits the top talents of Johnson & Wales' Baking & Pastry students. Since its start in 2016, this competition has provided students with the opportunity to receive feedback and critiques from expert artisans in the Miami area.

The library serves as the university's gallery space for the cakes year-round, showcasing the creativity and artistry of our students. Each year's competition is digitally archived online in the ScholarsArchive @ JWU.

In 2019, the library collaborated with the Social Media Marketing class to add another interdisciplinary aspect to the Literary Cake Competition. The SMM class delivered group presentations on various social media strategies the library could incorporate to market the cake competition to the JWU student body.

The competition coincides with National Library Week, allowing the library to highlight our services to attendees visiting the library for the contest, especially the popular sampling of the contest's tasting cakes.

The themes of the cakes are based on books, aptly making the collection a perfect fit for lively conversations in the library. We partner with the South Florida Cake & Candy Expo, providing the winners with a free course at the SoFlo C&C Expo and allowing the top cakes to be displayed at this national exposition.



## Literary Cake Contest

JWU Baking & Pastry Arts (AS), North Miami



Red velvet & blood orange cake "Murder on the Orient Express"



2019's top cakes were displayed at the South Florida Cake & Candy Expo



- Artistry • Creativity
- Teamwork • Networking
- Professionalism
- Competition

