When the time came for Jessica Unger to select a topic for the Honors Project class, she had no idea what she wanted to do. Eventually, she decided on a food-centered event, figuring it would appeal to college students. Soon the idea for Arcadia’s Next Great Baker was born. With the help of Melanie Tanada, Unger spent countless hours of planning and detailing to make the event happen.

The premise of the event was this: For a $5 entrance fee, people could try as many of the desserts as they pleased. They were then allowed one vote, to be cast toward the baker whom they thought was the best. Attendees could also pay additional money for extra votes. The baker with the most votes at the end was declared the winner. All profits from the event were to be donated to the food bank Philabundance, the largest branch of Feeding America in Philadelphia.

The event was an overwhelming success. People lined up out the door of the Castle to taste the over 20 different desserts and Unger ended up donating $463 to Philabundance. Unger was approached at the end of event with the idea of making it a yearly thing. With the encouragement of Helene Klein and the help of students Ashley Walters and Brianna Kiesel, she decided to go for it.

Unger never imagined her semester long project would grow into an Arcadia tradition. “It’s a cool thought to be able to leave something at Arcadia and I never anticipated it,” she said. The event hopes to raise $550 this year, making a total of $1000 donated to Philabundance over two years. If you are interested in entering a baked good into this year’s competition, email Unger as junger_01@arcadia.
In recent years, Arcadia Honors students have shown a big presence at NCHC conferences, sending 3 students to Boston in 2012, 14 students to New Orleans in 2013, and 10 students to this year’s conference in Denver, Colorado.

Congratulations to students David Klein, Theresa Dewa, Melanie Martin, Ruth Stetler, Nancy Dennehy, Amanda Edholm, Amber McDaniel, Heather Ciallella, Aashika Suseendra, and director Helene Klein, for getting accepted to present at this year’s NCHC Conference. The Honors Program is very proud of you for this achievement.

The Honors Program would love to have even more students take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. It is a fantastic way to bond with fellow Honors students and get recognized for the hard work you've put forth. A call will be made to put in proposals in late January of 2015. If you have a paper, project, or experience that you would like to share, you are strongly encouraged to apply. NCHC not only accepts submissions of scholarship from various disciplines, but the conference highlights events and projects that enrich the college campus. A memorable trip to an NCHC Conference could be in your future!

Celebrating Cultures, hosted by Arcadia University’s Honors Program and the Office of International Affairs, will be held on November 20th from 6:30-9pm in the Great Room. This event showcases cultures from around the world based on nationality, race, religion, and even subcultures like music genres and fan bases.

Entry is free and food will be offered, and in addition, there will be cultural performances and a fashion show.

Event coordinators are looking for more cultural representatives for the event. Students, faculty, staff, and any organization or committee from Arcadia's campus is welcome and encouraged to contribute and participate. To set up a table, the layout must first be approved by Greta Diem and Rachel Chan, who are running this year's event. Presenters will be reimbursed for giveaways, food, and any decorations their tables require, up to $50.

Visit tinyurl.com/celebratingcultures or email honors@arcadia.edu to sign up for a table. We hope you will join us in celebrating the many cultures represented here at Arcadia!

Riddles:

Q: What has four wheels and flies?
A: A garbage truck

Q: What did the buffalo say to its son when he left for college?
A: "Good luck!"

Quote:

“What lies behind you and what lies in front of you, pales in comparison to what lies inside of you.”

-Ralph Waldo Emerson