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# Chef's memory, passion live on through foundation

Story and photo posted  
by **Carissa Lester**

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One year after his death, four nationally acclaimed chefs will join together with Whirled Peas Catering to host a "Night of Excellence" to remember **Brian Thompson** and to raise money for the Brian Thompson Scholarship Foundation ([www.brianthompsonscholarship.com](http://www.brianthompsonscholarship.com)).

Thompson died tragically on February 28, 2006. A catering chef with a dynamic personality and passionate spirit, Brian touched the lives of everyone he met. The Brian Thompson Scholarship Foundation was established in his memory.

The Foundation aims to support aspiring chefs who have the passion, desire and motivation to pursue a career in the culinary arts by sending one student per year to a

local culinary institution for a formal, three-year education.

At the "Night of Excellence" fundraiser on February 28, Chefs **Mark Fiorentino** of Daniel Boulud Restaurants in New York, **Mike Morehead** of Gourmet Fine Catering in Denver, **Christian "Goose" Sorensen** of Solera Restaurant in Denver and **Bradford Thompson** of The Phoenician in Scottsdale, Ariz., will provide live cooking demonstrations, as well as samples of their food, expertly paired with select wines.

A silent auction will feature graciously donated items including a New Belgium Fat Tire Cruiser; a roundtrip flight and two night stay in Akumal, Mexico; and a cocktail party at the famous Sculptured House in Genesee.

*Carissa Lester is a public relations specialist with GroundFloor Media. She lives in Denver.*



**Brian Thompson prepares for an event** with Whirled Peas Catering in 2006. Thompson died Feb. 28, 2006, but a foundation in his name continues his passion for cooking.

### Cook for a cause

- **What:** "A Night of Excellence" to remember Brian Thompson, featuring cooking demonstrations from nationally renowned chefs and samples of their wares.
- **When:** 6-9 p.m., Feb. 28
- **Where:** The Cable Center, 2000 Buchtel Blvd.
- **Cost:** \$100, with proceeds benefitting the Brian Thompson Scholarship Foundation. For more information, call 720-335-2718 or visit [brianthompsonscholarship.com](http://brianthompsonscholarship.com).