

# DC CHEFS

2008-2009 | A Collaboration of the Area's Finest Chefs



It should come as no surprise that Laurent Lhuillier of Alexandria's Windows Catering had made the wedding cake for Cindy Crawford and others with her celebrity status. After all, having led the 2006 US team to a Bronze medal at the World Pastry Championship, Lhuillier has been ranked as one of the world's finest pastry chefs.

Lhuillier stumbled upon his calling by accident. "As a student in France, I wanted to have a military career," he says. "That freaked out my mom, so she asked for me to apprentice with a local baker. All I did was pound butter the first day, but I loved it. I haven't looked back since."

The bakery, Patisserie Godbier in the Champagne region, was run by a father figure named Pierre. "You need to go and learn on the road," is what he said after I had worked there for several years," he says. "I never would have thought my career path would allow for me to travel the world."

So far, Lhuillier has done stints in Toronto, Singapore, the Bahamas and Washington. But it was in

## Laurent Lhuillier



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