



— Emeril's —
CULINARY GARDEN &
TEACHING KITCHEN

2024 PROGRAM UPDATE

Where Confident Kids Grow

A program of



Emeril Lagasse Foundation

A YEAR OF GROWTH, ENGAGEMENT, & IMPACT

In 2024, Emeril's Culinary Garden & Teaching Kitchen continued to thrive, bringing hands-on food, nutrition, and gardening education to more students nationwide. We celebrated key milestones in **expansion**, **evaluation**, and **student engagement**, reinforcing our mission to inspire, mentor, and enable youth to reach their full potential.



INCREASING OUR IMPACT

9,956

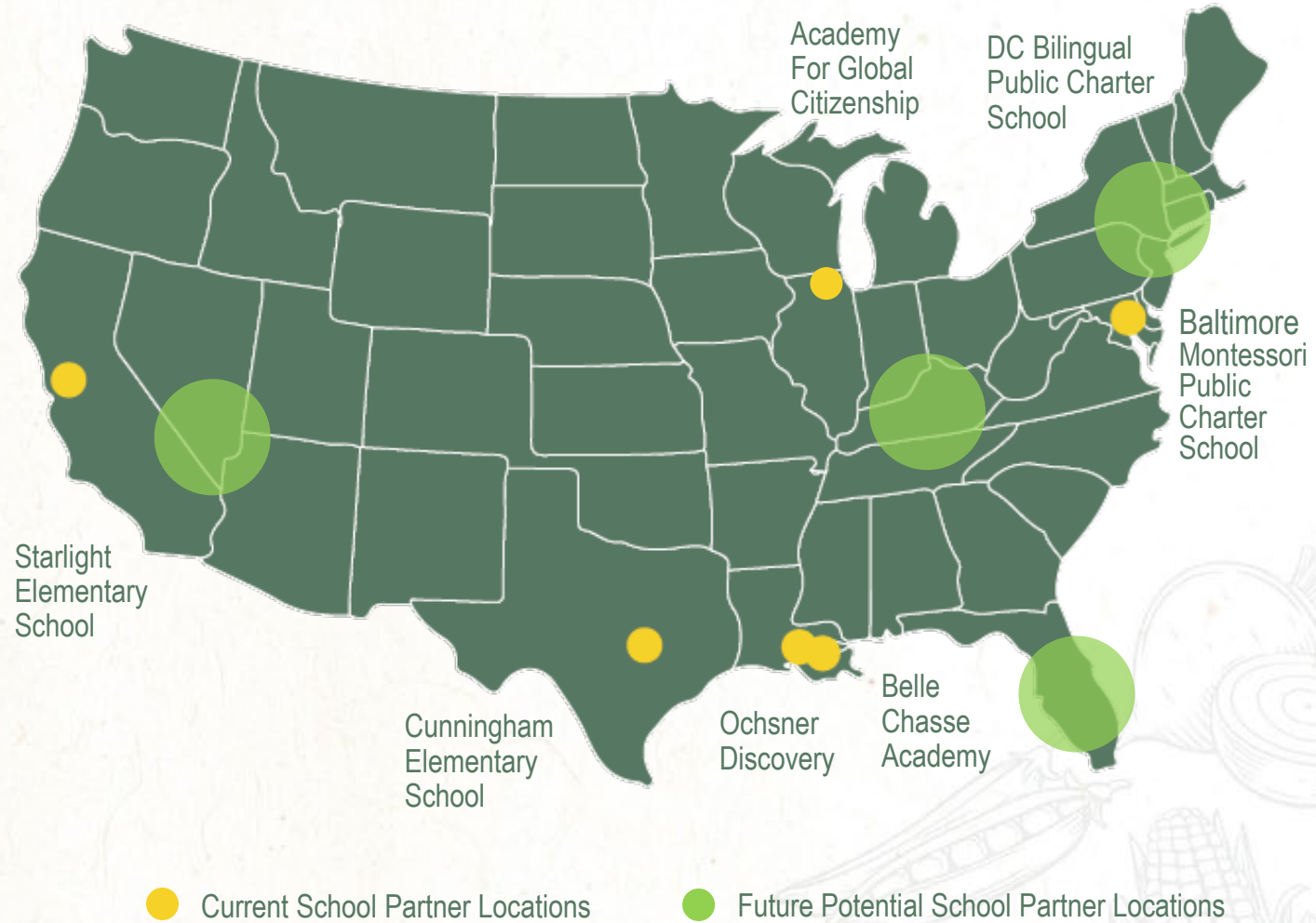
STUDENTS ENGAGED IN 24 SCHOOLS

14,000+

PARENTS, TEACHERS & FAMILY MEMBERS IMPACTED

8,493

CULINARY, GARDENING & NUTRITION LESSONS TAUGHT



ENHANCING STUDENTS' LIVES

As we continue expanding into new schools, our program participation naturally grows over time. New schools begin with select grade levels and gradually scale up, ensuring thoughtful and sustainable implementation. Reported percentages reflect this intentional growth, demonstrating our commitment to long-term impact and success.

64%

of students enrolled at our signature program sites

RECEIVED NUTRITION EDUCATION LESSONS.

71%

of students enrolled at our signature program sites

RECEIVED COOKING EDUCATION LESSONS.

77%

of students enrolled at our signature program sites

RECEIVED GARDEN-BASED EDUCATION LESSONS.

96%

of core academic teachers at our program sites

INCORPORATE THE GARDEN INTO THEIR CLASSROOM

instruction on a regular basis, outside of dedicated gardening classes.



NEW SCHOOL PARTNER



BALTIMORE MONTESSORI PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

In January 2024, we welcomed Baltimore Montessori Public Charter School as our seventh school partner.

In its first year as an Emeril's Culinary Garden & Teaching Kitchen site, the school has expanded its existing program by hiring a dedicated garden instructor, initiating facility improvements, and enabling more grade levels to access kitchen and garden classes—deepening the program's influence on its **601 students**.

REAL WORLD LEARNING



Starlight Elementary
(Watsonville, CA)



DC Bilingual Public Charter School
(Washington, D.C.)

STARLIGHT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Starlight Elementary's Chicken Coop Project: Students engineered barriers to protect plants from chickens, demonstrating STEM & problem-solving skills.

DC BILINGUAL PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

One 3rd grade student shared their joy in seeing their hard work in the garden pay off, saying, *"Harvesting sweet potatoes is like digging for treasure that we get to eat!"*

BRINGING LEARNING TO LIFE

DMV (DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, MARYLAND & VIRGINIA)

Emeril's Culinary Garden & Teaching Kitchen students from Baltimore Montessori and D.C. Bilingual public charter schools had the opportunity to shine on a national stage as they led cooking demonstrations featuring healthy, delicious recipes with the support of Chefs Adam Howard and Carlos Raba on the center court at Humana Foundation's National Mall of Pickleball.

GREATER NEW ORLEANS

Our program highlighted the link between food education and creativity through a student artwork contest. Students from Belle Chasse Academy showcased their talents, with winning designs featured on silk scarves and ties given to guests at Carnivale du Vin, our signature fundraising event in New Orleans.



Baltimore Montessori Public Charter School
(Baltimore, MD)
DC Bilingual Public Charter School
(Washington, D.C.)



Belle Chasse Academy
(Belle Chasse, LA)

STRENGTHENING EDUCATORS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Dr. John Ochsner Discovery Health Sciences Academy
(New Orleans, LA)



Academy for Global Citizenship
(Chicago, IL)

INVESTING IN TEACHERS

- 21 hours of training for 142 teachers
- Professional development focused on integrating culinary & garden education
- Follow-up surveys in 2025 to assess impact

ENGAGING FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES

- 90 community events in 2024
- Parent feedback from surveys & focus groups
- Impact on home cooking habits & nutrition awareness

THE NEED IS GREAT

Your support helps bridge the gap between poverty, education, and health, providing children with hands-on learning experiences that foster lifelong skills.

- **Healthy Habits Start Here** – Cooking and gardening lessons empower kids to make nutritious choices
- **Beyond the Classroom** – Hands-on learning improves academic engagement and real-world skills
- **Breaking Barriers** – Your support ensures more children gain access to quality food education.

Together we are shaping a healthier future — every child deserves the opportunity to thrive!

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*"Alden and I wanted to reach and impact kids in a positive manner,
and we knew the best way to do that was through food."*

- Chef Emeril

You are invited to learn more at [emeril.org](https://www.emeril.org)