



## LOOK FOR THE SEAL.

California Milk Advisory Board

- WHAT:** Pizza Master Class
- WHEN:** Tuesday, June 23, 2026
- WHERE:** Kendall College/National Louis University
- TIME:** 12:00 p.m. – 4 p.m.
- INSTRUCTOR:** Chef Lars Smith
- LIMIT:** 16 attendees
- FEE:** \$35 per person per class

**Chef Lars Smith will take participants through the fundamentals of building award-winning pizzas from dough basics to toppings, with a special emphasis on cheese selection, as well as pizza styles from Sicilian to Detroit, perfecting presentation and more. Hands-on pizza exercise and cheese sampling.**

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**CLASS ATTIRE:** Basic “chef” attire is appropriate. (Close toed shoes, hair pulled back/fastened, bring your own chef’s jacket/apron, extra apron – keep in mind that this is a hands-on class).

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### ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR:



Lars Smith, Chef/Owner, State of Mind Hospitality Group – California

Lars Smith is the chef and co-owner of the State of Mind Hospitality Group in the San Francisco Bay Area, where he was born and raised. He opened State of Mind Public House and Pizzeria in 2018 and has since expanded to three locations, with plans for continued growth. Lars has worked in the restaurant industry since 2002, and his passion for food began at a young age cooking alongside his grandmothers, where he developed an appreciation for technique, tradition, and cooking from scratch.

At State of Mind, Lars focuses on house-made food and menus built around local, seasonal California ingredients. He has a strong interest in working with California cheese and dairy, and enjoys exploring how different cheeses can be used to create balance, flavor, and texture in both traditional and non-traditional pizzas.

Lars has been involved in competitive pizza making since 2013 and has won and placed in competitions in both the United States and Italy. In addition to running his restaurants, he occasionally teaches classes, leads seminars, and consults with operators on menu development, dough systems, and kitchen operations.

When he’s not working, Lars enjoys traveling with his wife and two children.