

CHEF PROFILE - Chef Gunawan “Gunny” Raharja

The Overland Park Convention Center and ARAMARK are pleased to feature Chef Gunawan S Raharja as their executive chef. Chef Raharja has extensive experience in the world of culinary arts having recently served as the executive chef for the Doubletree Hotel in Overland Park, KS.

Originally from Bandung, Indonesia, Chef Raharja received his training from the National Hotel and Tourism Institute in Bandung, Indonesia where he graduated top of his class. Chef Raharja also graduated from San Jacinto College Central in Restaurant Management and Culinary Arts program and has chef de cuisine certification from American Culinary Federation.

Prior to joining ARAMARK Chef Raharja served as the Executive Chef at the Doubletree Hotel and served as a 10 member F&B executive team to set F&B standards and revised existing standards for all 187 Doubletree Hotels, achieved highest score within all Hilton Brands on yearly sanitation inspection 98.8%, awarded first place cash award to produce Doubletree Signature Dessert to be on all hotels In-Room Dining menu and the hotel was picked by corporate headquarter to produce the Doubletree core menu to appear as Doubletree favorite on all hotel menus. Before joining the hotel world, Chef Raharja was managing 100 cooks and 9 Sous-Chefs in culinary department for Argosy Casino in Riverside , MO. In addition to his many awards, citation, and contributions Chef Raharja also effectively manages a staff of over 15 cooks and utility personnel. He is an active member in the American Culinary Federation local chapter and American Bocuse d’Or Academy.

Some of his more outstanding accomplishments include:

- Senator Pat Roberts family dinner, singer/ actor Kris Kristofferson amenity, Univ. of Kansas football team meals ,Univ. of Missouri football team meals, Trofie Restaurant Grand Opening , over 450 attendees which included numerous dignitaries, political figures and corporate executives throughout the city at Overland Park Doubletree Hotel.
- Former President George W Bush dinner and actor William Shattner family dinner at KC Marriott Hotel.
- Senator Kit Bond, Senator Keith Schraad for Some Enchanted Evening Gala Dinner and the Denver Broncos meals at Overland Park Marriott Hotel.
- Former President George H.W Bush, Rev. Jessie Jackson, actor Robert Wagner dinner at Hyatt Regency Houston
- Actrees Sigourney Weaver dinner at Huntington Hotel San Francisco
- Preparing meal for over 10,000 people for Argosy Casino Grand Opening and high roller clients

Located in center city Overland Park, the beautiful Overland Park Convention Center hosts a variety of meetings, tradeshow, and other special events year-round. Chef Raharja looks forward to the opportunity to serve you and your guests. Bon Appétit!

