SARASOTA — Our country could be in good hands in the future when it comes to the food industry, as more and more teenagers are showing an interest in learning how to cook.

This summer, dozens of teens from around the Bay area are taking part in Keiser University's Culinary Camp in Sarasota. The camps are designed to introduce students to a career in culinary arts.

Caleb Kimble, 16, traveled to Sarasota from Naples just to take part in the camp.

"I love cooking," he said. "It's been my passion since I was a little kid, and I wanted to learn more."

Chef Michael Moench, the Dean of Culinary Arts for the Sarasota Campus, said he's seeing more teens cooking than ever before.

"I think it has to do a lot to with Food Network," he said.

Moench said thanks to a number of cooking shows on TV, the younger generation is showing more interest in learning how to make freshly-cooked meals.

"If he can do it, so can I," said 17-year-old Amanda McNight, who watches cooking shows with her family.

McNight, who wants to be a pastry chef when she gets older, said she plans on enrolling in culinary school once she graduates from high school.

Moench said the culinary arts are growing as more students like McNight decide to pursue careers as chefs.

Five years ago, enrollment at Keiser right out of high school was only at 4 percent. Now that enrollment stands at 18 percent.

The school also reports that every student that graduates from Keiser's culinary program finds a job.

"We currently have 100 percent placement with our students," said Chef Moench.

The camp at Keiser is offered to teens every summer and is free to high school students.