

Entrepreneur

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SUCCESS STORY

CYBF Entrepreneurs: Bang Gia Dao and Kim Hong Dao

CYBF Mentor: Lana Pinsky, 2009 CYBF Atlantic Canada Outstanding Mentor Award

CYBF Community Partner: CEED

Inception: February 2005

Jobs Created: 20

Location: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Website: www.talaythaihalifax.com



Talay Thai Restaurant Limited

CYBF 2008 Atlantic Canada Best Business Award Winners

Business Profile: When you visit restaurants that serve international cuisine, you may wonder about the food's authenticity: does it truly represent the food served in that country? You needn't worry about this at Talay Thai Restaurant. Their chef is directly from Thailand and serves an authentic Thai menu, including mouth watering dishes pad thai and cashew chicken. The restaurant has a full service dining room, separate takeout counter and delivers to a limited area. As well, Talay Thai is partnered with a *sommelier*, who supplies an excellent wine list that pairs well with each dish on the menu.

Their Story: Entrepreneurship is literally in Bang and Kim's blood. The ancestry of two siblings includes many entrepreneurs. They also have considerable experience in the restaurant industry: Bang has been a chef and Kim has worked as a server for many years and also earned a Business Administration diploma. In February 2005, the siblings were "tired of working for someone else." So, they mixed their ancestry and experience and added a tablespoon of CYBF's mentoring and financing programs to make a recipe you can't find in any cookbook: Talay Thai Restaurant.

If you ask Bang and Kim about their venture, they say that they see themselves as "entrepreneurs-in-training-pants." It appears that their pants fit well: they're a great success. Many regular customers praise Talay Thai's cooking, including politicians and celebrities like Ellen Page, the star of the hit movie Juno. Talay Thai has also won many awards, such as the 2007 Nova Scotia Seed Capital Awards Business of the Year and the 2005 Best Spring Roll Award in Halifax. As well, the Halifax Chamber of Commerce congratulated Talay Thai in their newsletter for being listed as one of the country's top ten new restaurants. Moreover, Bang and Kim give back to their community. They have fundraised for the Dalhousie Molly Appeal and donated to the Cancer Society and the Children's Foundation. So, what are Bang and Kim's next steps? To set up a franchise prototype.

Talay Thai Restaurant Limited - continued

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

2009

- Won Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year
- Best Thai Restaurant – The Coast

2008

- Won CYBF Atlantic Canada Best Business Award
- Won Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year
- Awarded the Best International Restaurant and Food by the Coast's 7th annual Best of Food Awards

2007

- Won Nova Scotia Seed Capital Business of the Year Award



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Your Success Is Our Business

The Canadian Youth Business Foundation (CYBF) is a national charity that helps to drive Canada's economic prosperity by providing youth, age 18-34, who have a great business idea but are unable to access funds through traditional sources, with start-up financing, world-class mentoring and business resources to create and sustain their own successful business.

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Short Quote

“According to our CYBF Mentor, Lana Pinsky, ‘a mind is a terrible thing to waste.’ CYBF has been there to allow young, passionate and enthusiastic people realize their dreams.”

- Bang Gia Dao & Kim Hong Dao, Talay Thai Restaurant Limited

Mentor Quote

“Our CYBF mentor, Lana Pinsky, has helped us in the following areas: market research, forms, administration, legalities and ESL, among other things. The most recent help and support we received from our CYBF mentor was to bring in a Thai Chef from Thailand. Mark Twain once said, ‘put all your eggs in one basket and watch that basket.’ Our mentor has watched our basket and helped our eggs grow.”

- Bang Gia Dao & Kim Hong Dao, Talay Thai Restaurant Limited

Canada's Entrepreneur Gateway - www.cybf.ca

The Canadian Youth Business Foundation (CYBF) is the ‘go to’ place for youth entrepreneurship. As a national charity, we are dedicated to growing our nation's economy one young entrepreneur at a time. We look at character not collateral, when providing youth, age 18-34, with pre-launch coaching, business resources, start-up financing and mentoring, to help them launch and sustain a successful entrepreneurial business. www.cybf.ca.

CEED Halifax - www.ceed.info

CEED is an organization devoted to helping people discover and use entrepreneurship as a vehicle to become self-reliant. CEED has programs for everyone, from at-risk youth to newly landed immigrants to retiring professionals, and works with pre-aspiring, aspiring, and existing entrepreneurs of all ages. www.ceed.info

**For any other information required, please contact
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