



## Grant Pinkerton Class of 2007

Grant Pinkerton is the founder and pitmaster of Pinkerton's Barbecue, an award-winning Texas barbecue brand with locations in Houston and San Antonio. Known for his commitment to traditional craft, consistency, and hospitality, Grant has built one of the most respected barbecue programs in the country, earning world wide recognition.

A graduate of Lamar High School in Houston, Grant went on to attend University of Texas at Austin, where he studies rhetoric and writing. What started as a dream of cooking barbecue quickly evolved into a full-time pursuit. In 2016, he opened the original Pinkerton's Barbecue in the Houston's Heights neighborhood. It has since grown into a multi-location business, employing a large team and tens of thousands of guests each week.

Grant's approach blends old-school technique with a relentless focus on quality and execution. His dedication has earned numerous accolades, including recognition on the Forbes 30 Under 30 list (2018) and two honors from the Michelin Guide. Pinkerton's Barbecue has also been named among Texas Monthly's Top 50 BBQ Joints in Texas every year it has been open and is widely regarded as one of the premier barbecue destinations in the world.

Beyond the pit, Grant is deeply committed to giving back. He is an active supporter of the Lamar FFA program as well as Hogs for the Cause, a leading nonprofit dedicated to supporting families battling pediatric brain cancer. Through fundraising and advocacy, he works to leverage his platform to make a meaningful impact beyond the restaurant.

Grant's journey reflects the entrepreneurial spirit and determination fostered during his time at Lamar High School. He continues to grow his business while staying true to the values of hard work, authenticity, and community that have defined his success.