

2026

# Food for Thought



A Grand Chef's Tasting To Benefit The Cooke School and Institute  
May 6, 2026 | The Lighthouse Pier 61, Chelsea Piers, New York, NY 10011



# Cooke School and Institute – Mission

- ◆ Cooke School and Institute is NYC's premiere independent school educating neurodivergent students and those with mild to moderate cognitive or developmental disabilities ages 5-21 across campuses in SoHo and East Harlem.
- ◆ Cooke envisions a world in which all people with disabilities are included as valued members of their communities, leading independent and purposeful lives.
- ◆ At Cooke, we equip students with the skills and experiences needed to thrive beyond the classroom.
- ◆ Our programs focus on fostering confidence and self-reliance, ensuring each student is prepared to navigate their future with success.

# Internship Program

- ◆ As part of a comprehensive approach to education, internship opportunities are available for students ages 14-22 to help them:
  - ◆ gain work skills
  - ◆ navigate professional environments
  - ◆ maintain independence
- ◆ These internships span six industries including culinary, retail, and digital arts.



# Last Year's Chefs/Restaurants

## 8282

Bong Le Jo

## Barbuto

Heather Miller &  
Jack Cesari

## Cafe Commerce

Harold Moore

## Caviarteria

Walter Drobenko &  
Lucas Santos

## Chevere

Miriam & Michael  
Petrovitch

## Chinese Tuxedo

Paul Donnelly

## Cookshop

Wil Fernandez-Cruz

## David Waltuck

## Dhamaka

Vijay Bhardwaj

## Frenchette

Riad Nasr & Lee Hanson

## Hainan Chicken House

Christopher Low

## Harlem Shake

Jelena Pasic

## KRU

Ohm Suansilphong

## Nobu Fifty Seven

Taku Sato

## Noi Due Gelato

Golan Chetrit

## Nowon

Jae Lee

## Oceana

Tim Jocz

## Pecking House

Eric Huang

## Pier Sixty Collection

Matt Tiscornia

## Saigon Social

Helen Nguyen

## Shuka & Shukette

Ayesha Nurdjaja &  
Carlha Azcona

## Skirt Steak

Laurent Tourondel

## Soothr

Joel Watthanawongwat

## Taverna Di Bacco

Maurizio Crescenzo

# THRIVE TITLE SPONSOR – \$150,000

- ◆ Food for Thought 2026 presented by “you”
- ◆ Title sponsorship distinction on website and printed invitation
- ◆ Exclusive branding for pre-reception
- ◆ Prominent logo placement on step and repeat
- ◆ 20 VIP gala tickets
- ◆ Sponsors 15 Cooke teachers to attend event
- ◆ Reserved program seating for you and your guests
- ◆ VIP Pre-Reception
- ◆ 60 second journal ad



# IGNITE SPONSORSHIP - \$50,000

- ◆ Sponsorship distinction on website and printed invitation
- ◆ Logo on step and repeat
- ◆ 10 VIP gala tickets
- ◆ Sponsors 8 Cooke teachers to attend event
- ◆ Reserved program seating for you and your guests
- ◆ VIP Pre-Reception
- ◆ 30 second journal ad



# EMPOWER SPONSORSHIP - \$25,000

- ◆ Sponsorship distinction on website and printed invitation
- ◆ Logo on step and repeat
- ◆ 8 VIP gala tickets
- ◆ Sponsors 4 Cooke teachers to attend event
- ◆ Reserved program seating for you and your guests
- ◆ VIP Pre-Reception
- ◆ 20 second journal ad

# INSPIRE SPONSORSHIP – \$15,000

- ◆ Sponsorship distinction on website and printed invitation
- ◆ Logo on step and repeat
- ◆ 6 VIP gala tickets
- ◆ Sponsors 2 Cooke teachers to attend event
- ◆ Reserved program seating for you and your guests
- ◆ VIP Pre-Reception
- ◆ 15 second Journal ad



# BESPOKE SPONSORSHIP – \$10,000+

- ◆ Not seeing the perfect package?
- ◆ Build a custom package including any of the following components for your company:
  - Sponsorship distinction on website and printed invitation
  - Logo on step and repeat
  - VIP gala tickets
  - VIP Pre-Reception
  - Sponsors Cooke teachers to attend event
  - Corporate Digital Journal Ads
  - Live vendor or display opportunities



# Corporate Digital Journal Ad



30 SECONDS - \$5,000

2025

**Food for Thought**

Vital Planning Group congratulates Diane & Todd Restivo for their years of generosity and dedicated service to Cooke School and Institute.

**Burak N. Alpaslan, CFP®, AIF®, C(k)P®**  
Financial Professional Advising Cooke School Retirement Plans

**Vital** PLANNING GROUP | [www.vitalplanning.com](http://www.vitalplanning.com) | E: [burak@vitalplanning.com](mailto:burak@vitalplanning.com)

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15 SECONDS - \$3,000

Celebrating your tireless  
**COMMITMENT TO OTHERS.**

*We are pleased to support the Cooke School and Institute.*

Every day, you help make our community a better place to live. We do our best to support you, your organization and the people you serve. We're always proud to help our neighbors.

**Andrea S. Kantor** (she/her), Managing Director  
Not-For-Profit Banking  
[akantor@websterbank.com](mailto:akantor@websterbank.com)  
212.273.5842

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[websterbank.com](http://websterbank.com)

# Individual Digital Journal Ads



30 SECONDS - \$2,500

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Financial Professional Advising Cooke School Retirement Plans

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15 SECONDS - \$1,500

Celebrating your tireless  
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Every day, you help make our community a better place to live. We do our best to support you, your organization and the people you serve. We're always proud to help our neighbors.

Andrea S. Kantor (she/her), Managing Director  
Non-Profit Banking  
[akantor@websterbank.com](mailto:akantor@websterbank.com)  
212.273.5842



8 SECONDS - \$1,000

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**Food for Thought**

Congratulations, Todd and Diane.  
Love, the Bookless Book Club

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[websterbank.com](http://websterbank.com)



# Tickets

- ◆ **VIP Ticket - \$1,500**
  - ✧ 1 ticket to gala
  - ✧ VIP Check-in and reception
  - ✧ Sponsors a Cooke teacher to attend Gala
- ◆ **Ticket - \$500**
  - ✧ 1 ticket to gala
  - ✧ Open bar
  - ✧ Chefs tasting
- ◆ **Teacher Ticket - \$500**
  - ✧ Sponsors a teacher to attend

