

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

Securities and investment advisory services offered through qualified registered representatives of MML Investors Services, LLC. Member SIPC. Vital Planning Group, LLC is not a subsidiary or affiliate of MML Investors Services, LLC, or its affiliated companies. 6 Corporate Drive, Shelton, CT 06484, Tel: 203-513-4000. CRN202605-438647

15 SECONDS - \$3,000



Celebrating your tireless  
**COMMITMENT TO OTHERS.**

**W**

*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

**WebsterBank®**  
[websterbank.com](http://websterbank.com)

© Webster Bank, N.A. Member FDIC. Webster Bank, the Webster Bank logo, and the W symbol are trademarks of Webster Financial Corporation and registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. © 2024 Webster Financial Corporation. All Rights Reserved.

# Individual Digital Journal Ads

30 SECONDS - \$2,500

15 SECONDS - \$1,500

8 SECONDS - \$1,000

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

Securities and investment advisory services offered through qualified registered representatives of MML Investors Services, LLC. Member SIPC. Vital Planning Group, LLC is not a subsidiary or affiliate of MML Investors Services, LLC or its affiliated companies. 6 Corporate Drive, Shelton, CT 06484, Tel: 203-513-6000. CRN202005-4396447

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.

**Webster Bank**  
[websterbank.com](http://websterbank.com)

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

© Webster Bank N.A. Member FDIC. Deposits, WebBank, Bank, the Webster Bank logo, and the W logo are trademarks of Webster Bank Corporation and registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. © 2024 Webster Bank Corporation. All Rights Reserved.

2025  
**Food for Thought**

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



# 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 teach to attend

