



food

FOR
THOUGHT

20
26

A GRAND CHEFS
TASTING TO BENEFIT
COOKE SCHOOL
AND INSTITUTE



May 6, 2026

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

Cookshop

Wil Fernandez-Cruz

Pier Sixty Collection

Matt Tiscornia

Saigon Social

Helen Nguyen

Barbuto

Heather Miller &
Ty Johnson

L'Amico

Laurent Tourondel &
Emilie Bousquet

Melba's

Melba Wilson

Shuka & Shukette

Ayesha Nurdjaja

Cafe Commerce

Harold Moore

Le Bernardin

Orlando Soto

Nobu Fifty Seven

Matt Hoyle

Soothr

Joel
Watthanawongwat

Caviarteria

Walter Drobenko &
Lucas Santos

Le Rock

Michelle Palazzo

Noi Due Gelato

Golan Chetrit

TAO Downtown

Eliot Corona

Chanterelle Pastry

David Waltuck &
Kate Zuckerman

Lilia & Misi

Missy Robbins

Nowon

Jae Lee

Taverna Di Bacco

Maurizio Crescenzo

Chevere!

Miriam & Michael
Petrovitch

Oceana

Craig Dima

THRIVE TITLE SPONSOR – \$150,000

- ▣ Food for Thought 2026 presented by “you”
- ▣ Title sponsorship distinction on website and 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
- ▣ Free 1-hour Cooke Institute professional development workshop on workplace inclusivity for corporate teams

IGNITE SPONSORSHIP – \$50,000

- Sponsorship distinction on website and 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
- Free 1-hour Cooke Institute professional development workshop on workplace inclusivity for corporate teams

EMPOWER SPONSORSHIP – \$25,000

- Sponsorship distinction on website and 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
- Free 1-hour Cooke Institute professional development workshop on workplace inclusivity for corporate teams

INSPIRE SPONSORSHIP – \$15,000

- Sponsorship distinction on website and 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
- Free 1-hour Cooke Institute professional development workshop on workplace inclusivity for corporate teams

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 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
E: burak@vitalplanning.com

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15 SECONDS - \$3,000



Celebrating your tireless
COMMITMENT TO OTHERS.

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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
212.273.5842

WebsterBank
websterbank.com

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Individual Digital Journal Ads

30 SECONDS - \$2,500

15 SECONDS - \$1,500

8 SECONDS - \$1,000



2025
Food for
Thought

We are pleased to sponsor Cooke's 2025 Food for Thought gala. We are most proud of the success Cooke students have had in becoming contributing members of their communities. Thank you to the students, teachers, and staff.

The Robards Family

2025
Food for
Thought

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



2025
Food for
Thought

The Usdan Family

Is proud to support the Cooke School & Institute's 38 years of success in their mission of independence through education.

Andrea Pollack & Adam Usdan

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

