



# 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

## **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 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

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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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# 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

