CELEBRATING 25 YEARS COOKE CENTER ANNUAL REPORT



2011•2012

TOTAL REVENUE \$18,899,000

CONSULTATION AND TRAINING FEES \$ 508,000

\$ 1,535,000 3%

CONTRIBUTIONS & SPECIAL EVENTS

EDUCATION FEES

REVENUE

\$ 16,856,000

8%

89%

Year ended June 30, 2012

FINANCIALS

87% **EDUCATION SERVICES AND PROGRAMS**

EXPENSES

Year ended June 30, 2012

\$ 14,805,000

\$ 1,782,000

FUNDRAISING

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$ 17,096,000

\$ 509,000

ADMINISTRATION

10%

3%

DEAR FRIENDS,

On our 25th opening day of school, we welcomed 101 students to the Cooke Center Grammar School, a newly renovated turn-of-the-century school building on Manhattan's Lower East Side. Moving from individual classrooms in four general education partner schools to a consolidated grammar school was the culmination of years of research and discussion as to the best educational model for the students we serve.

In one location, our faculty will collaborate more strategically and move easily among classrooms and levels. Consolidation will allow for more effective groupings of children, management of instruction, use of resources, social opportunities and shared insights as we continue to respond to the individual needs of each of our children.

Engagement in neighborhood-based learning will continue across all sites and you might find Cooke students participating in an after-school reading program at Hamilton Fish Park with their typically developing peers, touring a local bank branch to learn about personal finance, or working and volunteering at local museums, hospitals and a variety of businesses around the city.

In addition to all that is taking place in our schools, we will continue to offer consultation services to Head Starts and elementary schools through the Cooke Center Institute, helping teachers find new approaches to meet the diverse needs of all their students. We will also continue our rich relationships with the university community, where our faculty benefits from the resources and expertise of those fine institutions through professional development and training opportunities.

Finally, we are heartened to witness the success of Cooke Center Academy and SKILLS graduates as they are making their way out in the real world. Whether working with young children, in an office building, in retail or with an arts organization, Cooke graduates are applying what they have learned in jobs of their choosing. At the same time, they are determining for themselves the kinds of leisure and social opportunities in which they want to participate, coming back for Alumni programs and taking advantage of what this wonderful city has to offer all of its citizens.

We are grateful to you, our generous friends and supporters. Your contributions not only support our students' independence, but Cooke's ability to continue accepting any student who needs us, regardless of financial circumstances. We are so very proud that after 25 years, we are here to serve future generations of Cooke families.

WITH HEARTFELT THANKS,

Elern Carlfield Schools M. M. Muthin

Eileen Caulfield Schwab Chair

Michael Termini, PsyD President

PROGRAMS

COOKE CENTER PRESCHOOL SERVICES

COOKE CENTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL

COOKE CENTER ACADEMY

SKILLS

COOKE CENTER

INSTITUTE

COOKE CENTER PRESCHOOL SERVICES PREPARING FOR KINDERGARTEN AND BEYOND

Teachers and early childhood professionals know how critical the early years are for the youngest of learners. That's why Cooke's **Preschool offers a variety of** programs to give youngsters every opportunity for academic success. From multidisciplinary child evaluations and one-on-one classroom support, to integrated classrooms and school consultations, our faculty and administrators are sought out by preschools and parents throughout the city who want to address the general and special education needs of their young children.

Collaboration for Inclusion (C4I), Cooke's signature preschool program, brings skilled special educators into Head Start programs and other early childhood centers. Working with children, teachers and parents, they help create classrooms that include students with a wide range of developmental needs and abilities. Through long-term, sustained partnerships, our consultant teachers provide parent support, teacher coaching, student observations, special education services, and counseling, occupational therapy and speech therapy. The goal of C4I is to elevate the level of instruction schoolwide, and to better prepare all students - those with and without special needs - for a bright academic future.

Collaboration for Inclusion is generously supported by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, the Bernard F. & Alva B. Gimbel Foundation, and the Rose M. Badgeley Residuary Charitable Trust.









COOKE CENTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL A SCHOOL OF THEIR OWN

On Cooke's 25th opening of school, we could not be more pleased to welcome our elementary students to a school of their own. Located on Manhattan's Lower East Side, the Cooke Center Grammar School features state of the art classrooms outfitted with SMART Boards, a science lab, an art therapy studio, a technology lab, a schoolyard, and a movement space equipped with a traversing wall to aid in physical development. Guided by a collaborative team of experienced faculty and related service providers, our K-8 program educates students in a multidisciplinary setting, allowing students to learn among peers of similar age and ability levels in small classes of 8 to 12. All students participate in yoga, adaptive physical education, music, and off-site educational experiences around New York City to complement the traditional academics taught within the classroom.

By the time our students have completed the 8th grade, we have introduced them to the knowledge, social activities, and real-world experience they need for the next step – a smooth transition to the Cooke Center Academy.

We are most grateful to Cooke's Trustees – in particular, Dag Folger, Eileen Caulfield Schwab and Arthur Skelskie – for their ongoing support and vision in helping to create this extraordinary new space for our children and families.









4 PROGRAMS











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COOKE CENTER ACADEMY THE NEXT STEPS

We established Cooke Center Academy in 2005 to meet a critical need for a New York City high school to serve students with disabilities. A small student body and support from a collaborative team offer Academy students a stimulating and nurturing environment in which to prepare for an independent future from the day they enter as 9th graders. An Academy education provides students with individualized, standards-based academics, integrated related services, and community inclusion. Our small, multi-age groupings allow for the flexibility to address a range of cognitive, social and therapeutic needs. A Daily Living Lab (complete with a full working kitchen and laundry area), group therapy spaces, a science lab, an art studio, a tech center, a fitness room and two large spaces for student dining and social activities, all serve to provide our students with the richest educational experience.







TRANSITIONS... Our highly regarded Transition to Life program fosters the development of life skills through off-site education, travel training, community service and internships in some of New York City's most prestigious offices and institutions (Moody's, the American Museum of Natural History, and NYU Langone Medical Center, among others). Our highly-qualified Transition team offers individualized, ongoing support to every Academy family in formulating a comprehensive transition plan and accessing adult services.



SKILLS PREPARING FOR INDEPENDENCE





SKILLS, a program of the Cooke Center Academy for students ages 18-21, is designed to help young adults with disabilities make the transition from high school to adulthood. Our space in the Chelsea neighborhood of Manhattan is close to mass transit and other community resources such as libraries, museums and a recreation center, offering students numerous opportunities to make independent choices and hone their daily living skills.

Through person-centered planning, we create opportunities for students to be actively involved in identifying their areas of interest and meeting their individual goals for life after school. A strong emphasis is placed on vocational training, recreational activities and daily living skills that foster the greatest level of independence for each student. After successfully completing the SKILLS program, students are eligible for adult transition support programs, including the Cooke Center Academy Transition Career Office, the Cooke Alumni Program, and relevant New York State support services.

The Cooke Center Academy, Transition to Life and SKILLS are generously supported by The Moody's Foundation, the Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation, Heckscher Foundation for Children, HSBC, and the American Express Foundation.









COOKE CENTER INSTITUTE SHARING OUR KNOWLEDGE

Each day, teachers across the city are tasked with educating students with an extraordinarily broad range of abilities and diverse needs. Sharing our knowledge is a key component of Cooke's mission, and so we created the Cooke Center Institute to support teachers and administrators in meeting this challenge. Through year-round, weekly consultations in literacy, math and special education, our consultants draw upon years of professional experience and a wealth of Cooke resources to support partner schools in creating a rich learning environment for all students.

Whether modeling research-based teaching practices, coaching individual teachers through units of study, meeting with administrators, or facilitating schoolwide trainings, our consultants are deeply committed to equipping schools with tools and strategies that meet the diverse needs of all students and improve student achievement.

For our corporate partners, Cooke's ACCESS Project offers free workshops for employees about a range of topics of interest to parents, such as the stages of child development and specific special needs issues. Presentations are led by Cooke faculty and therapists who are experts in child development and have years of experience working with children of all age groups.







8 PROGRAMS

COOKE'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY GALA RAISES MORE THAN \$775,000

















On May 14th, Cooke Center celebrated its 25th anniversary with a Food for Thought gala at the Plaza Hotel. The evening featured a feast prepared by legendary chefs David Bouley, Daniel Boulud, Anita Lo, Jacques Torres and David Waltuck. Bill Ritter of WABC-TV graciously hosted the event and Eli Rodriguez of Sotheby's served as auctioneer.

We honored Frances Laserson of Moody's Corporation and Foundation with the Road to Independence Award and parents Marcia and Michael Beck with the Founders Award. Karen and David Waltuck of Chanterelle and Ark Restaurants, also Cooke parents, once again provided their talent and support for this special culinary event.

Our 25th anniversary celebration was generously supported by Moody's, Loeb & Loeb, BlackRock, Circle of Confusion, Cushman & Wakefield, Deloitte, E*Trade Financial, HSBC, PricewaterhouseCoopers, the Rudin Management Company, Satterlee Stephens Burke & Burke, Skadden Arps and many others.





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25 YEARS OF COOKE

Since 1987, Cooke has grown from one small classroom of children to an organization serving 500 New York City students with special needs, and their families, while improving general education instruction for thousands more. Cooke Center Middle School is founded to prepare students for their transition to high school.

Cooke's Full Inclusion Program is established at Studio Elementary School.



IIII 1987 IIIIIIIII 1991 IIIIIIIII 1996 IIIIIIIII 1999 IIIIIIIII 2005 IIII

Cooke's first class of seven students opens at School of the Sacred Heart.



Cooke Center Academy, a model high school for students with disabilities, opens in SoHo.



Cooke Center Preschool is founded to prepare the City's youngest learners for a lifetime of academic achievement.



Cooke Center Institute is founded, benefitting thousands of students, teachers and parents around New York City.

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Cooke Center Alumni Association is established to foster the Cooke community beyond graduation. Cooke launches its inaugural blog post, carrying the tradition of sharing our knowledge to the digital sphere.

SKILLS, a program to help young adults transition to adulthood, opens in Chelsea.





Cooke Center Grammar School opens on Stanton Street.

ANNUAL FUND LIST

The following list acknowledges with sincere gratitude those individuals, foundations and corporations who contributed to the Cooke Center Annual Fund, Spring Gala, 25th Anniversary Campaign or made a grant during the period from July 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012. We thank all of our longtime supporters and welcome new contributors to the Cooke family.

Ways you can help us secure Cooke's legacy:

Giving a gift to Cooke in your Will or Trust Agreement

Naming Cooke as beneficiary of your life insurance

Naming Cooke as beneficiary of your retirement plans

Naming Cooke as beneficiary of a charitable remainder trust

For more information, contact Patricia Schaefer, Vice President, Advancement, 212.280.4473 x 14 or pschaefer@cookecenter.org

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SCHOOL SITES & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

COOKE SCHOOL SITES

Cooke Center Grammar School – 219 Stanton Street Cooke Center Academy – 60 MacDougal Street Cooke Center SKILLS Program – 254 West 29th Street Cooke Center Preschool @ West Harlem Head Start

In addition, Cooke provides services and educational consulting in the following sites, located throughout Manhattan, Brooklyn and the Bronx.

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