EDIBLE SCHOOLYARD NYC

EDIBLE SCHOOLYARD NYC UNVEILS NEW CULINARY COUNCIL

New York chefs and culinary figures join together to promote and expand access to hands-on food education for New York City students

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Edible Schoolyard NYC (ESYNYC), a nonprofit organization on a mission to make cooking and gardening education accessible to every school-aged child in New York City, today announces the launch of the **ESYNYC Culinary Council**, a new network of the city's leading chefs, restaurateurs and culinary figures supporting the organization's work across the five boroughs.

To celebrate the launch of the Culinary Council, ESYNYC will host an intimate brunch on Monday, November 16 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Ditto, Andy Baraghani's new restaurant at 13 East 16th Street, steps from the Union Square Greenmarket.

The Culinary Council brings together leading members of New York City's culinary community, all of whom share ESYNYC's belief in the importance of hands-on food education for children. Council members share their skills, networks and platforms to expand access to cooking and gardening education for NYC students, raise awareness of ESYNYC's work, and deepen engagement between the culinary community and the schools and families the organization serves.

Council members will support ESYNYC in a variety of ways, from participating in events and fundraising initiatives to engaging students directly through classroom and garden visits, cooking demonstrations, career days and other experiences.

ESYNYC Culinary Council

Chair, Christine Muhlke, Bureau X

Thomas Allan, The Modern
Ned Baldwin, Houseman & Zoli
Andy Baraghani, Ditto
Paul Carmichael, Kabawa & Bar Kabawa
Nick Curtola, The Four Horsemen & I Cavallini
Clare de Boer, Stissing House
Delfin Jaranilla and Randi Lee, Leland Eating and Drinking House
Jeff Katz, Crane Club
Vijay Kumar, Semma
Sunny Lee, Sunn's
Donna Lennard and Danny Rubin, il Buco Family
Margaret Magnarelli, Baldor Specialty Foods
Ignacio Mattos, Altro Paradiso & Estela
Camari Mick, Calabash
Charlie Mitchell, Saga

Jon Neidich, Golden Age Hospitality
Joshua Pinsky and Chase Sinzer, Claud & Penny
Rasheeda Purdie, Ramen by Ra
Alex Raij and Eder Montero, La Vara, Txikito, & Saint Julivert Fisherie NY
Angie Rito and Scott Tacinelli, Don Angie & San Sabino NYC
Michael Robinov and Anina von Haeften, Farm to People
Melissa Rodriguez, Crane Club
Alison Roman, First Bloom
Jess Shadbolt, Dean's, Jupiter, King
Annie Shi, Lei, Dean's, Jupiter, King

Culinary Council Launch Celebration

Hosted by Andy Baraghani, the gathering will bring together Culinary Council members and their teams, ESYNYC Board Members, and longtime supporters of the organization to mark the Council's official launch and celebrate the culinary community's support of hands-on food education for New York City students.

"Learning where food comes from and what to do with it should be part of every kid's education," says Baraghani, who grew up in Berkeley, CA, where Alice Waters launched the first Edible Schoolyard demonstration garden in 1995. "It shaped mine, and I'm proud to support ESYNYC's work and welcome the Culinary Council to Ditto."

About Edible Schoolyard NYC

Since 2010, Edible Schoolyard NYC (ESYNYC) has been on a mission to make edible education accessible to every child in NYC. Our approach helps students build lifelong skills, fosters healthier relationships with food, and bridges longstanding gaps in food access and education. ESYNYC works in 30+ public schools annually across all five boroughs, leading hands-on cooking and gardening programs, supporting educators to implement food education in their classrooms, building and maintaining organic school gardens, leading engaging family programming and food distributions, and more.

ESYNYC's programming directly reaches over 4,000 NYC public school students annually, helping them gain the skills and knowledge needed for a healthier and more sustainable future. A recent survey shows that 92% of teachers report that students feel more positively about school overall because of ESYNYC, with the lessons helping students to make connections between other core academic subjects, such as math and science. In addition to introducing them to new fruits and vegetables — 73% of students try the food they cook — caregivers say that 91% of their kids show more interest in eating healthy at home.

Learn more about our work at edibleschoolyardnyc.org and on Instagram and Facebook (@esynyc) or LinkedIn.

Contact

Kristen Baldwin, President & Executive Director
keb@esynyc.org

Ariel Grace, Vice President of Development & External Affairs
adg@esynyc.org

Jay Strell, Strell & Co, Press
jstrell@gmail.com