



LIFE & STYLE

By Pamela Fishman Cianci

THE SOCIAL SCENE » JUNIOR LEAGUE OF SAN FRANCISCO

Something's cooking at 'Kids in the Kitchen' benefit

The Event: The Junior League of San Francisco, Hands on Gourmet and Dacor teamed up with Schools, Mentoring And Resource Team (SMART) for a day of "Kids in the Kitchen," a hands-on program for San Francisco students and families. Young students from local schools were able to cook with executive chef Stephen Gibbs from Hands On Gourmet and help prepare "Back to School" snacks, including chicken pizza and beef stir-fry in Dacor's outdoor kitchen units. The event featured fun activities, including planting herb gardens and making desserts. JLSF is focused on addressing urgent issues such as childhood obesity and poor nutrition; healthy recipes and eating tips were highlighted throughout the day.

The Venue: The historical Ferry Building on Embarcadero in San Francisco.

The Crowd: Elementary students from San Francisco schools, parents, JLSF members, Dacor staff and members of SMART. Supporters of all the organizations nibbled on the tasty creations of top chefs and their child protégés. Passers-by and onlookers from the street created a buzz while local news stations captured the festivities.

The Look: Chef hats, colorful aprons and cooking attire. The spectacular weekend weather created a casual, end-of-the-summer look.

The Buzz: The new SOMA Mercedes dealership, sleek bull-horn bracelets by Alba Nikka, letterpress cards by Paperflirt, SFMOMA's new exhibit, "Mexico as Muse: Tina Modotti and Edward Weston," the salmon carpaccio at Nopa and Reggae Fest in October.

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Alitzel Tamayo, left, a sixth-grader at Convent of the Sacred Heart, stands with Rina Castillo, a seventh-grader at San Francisco Day School. Wearing their "Kids in the Kitchen" aprons, the two are part of the SMART program and ecstatic to cook in the company of top chefs while learning fun and easy recipes.

— ALL: Amanda Vlastas/Special to The Examiner

Chef Mike C, left, and Oliver Said of Cesar in Berkeley are the owners of Kitchen on Fire, founded in 2005. KOF offers restaurant staff training, cooking classes and online recipes. Their mission with the involvement of "Kids in the Kitchen" is to teach the importance of eating healthy at an early age. Mike C is wearing a fiery straw hat, a spin on the traditional chef's hat.



Right: Molly Fuller, president of Hands On Gourmet, stands with executive chef Stephen Gibbs. Hands on Gourmet offers innovative cooking classes with a creative twist and specializes in corporate and team-building events. This month's HOG newsletter features fun recipes, tips for cooking on a budget and farmers market finds.



Above: Megan Said, left, wearing a black-and-white checkered dress bought in France, is a full-time mother and jewelry designer at Pave in Rockridge. Shanna Bianchi, right, a marketing coordinator in Davis, is wearing a white blouse from Banana Republic.

Alvaro Marquez, left, the after-school coordinator of SMART, stands with Nonoko Sato, center, program director of SMART and Bill Fricker, the executive director of SMART. SMART is a local community program that provides financially disadvantaged students with educational and personal development opportunities to further academic excellence and community involvement.



Above: Dave Stockdale, left, is the executive director of Center for Urban Education about Sustainable Agriculture (CUESA). Julie Cummins, right, is the director of education for CUESA — a nonprofit organization that promotes the maintenance of a healthy food system through the Ferry Plaza's farmers markets and educational programs. They encourage supporting local growers, family farms and regional food producers.



Left: Suanne Bouvier, far left, is the co-chairwoman of the Junior League of San Francisco. Ginger Wilcox, second from left, co-chair of the Home Tour, is one of JLSF's biggest fundraising events. Cynthia Foster, second from right, is the past president of JLSF. Zuzelin Martin, far right, who works in public relations for JLSF, holds up a copy "San Francisco Flavors," a cookbook of JLSF's favorite recipes.



Left: Charlene Rouspil, standing with her husband, Bob, is the manager of the Dacor Showroom in South San Francisco. Founded in 1965, Dacor has been an originator in the kitchen-appliance industry, redesigning the contemporary kitchen and producing a luxurious consumer line of culinary appliances.