



Let's Cook *Houston*

Houston's community culinary program. Three ways to cook with us — taste it, feel it, become it. Real skills, real credentials, real food.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Proven with foster youth. Now open to Houston.

Let's Cook Houston began as Let Them Cook — a culinary program we built with Houston's foster-youth community to prove the model worked. It did. Now we're opening the kitchen to the whole city: a monthly event for everyone, a 10-week intensive for adults, and a monthly Saturday just for kids. One curriculum, real certifications, garden-to-plate meals every session, and a clear path from first kitchen to first career.

THREE WAYS TO COOK WITH US

FOR EVERYONE

Monthly One-Day Event

- Participate — \$85
- Watch & Taste — \$35
- Vendor Booth — \$40
- Volunteers — Free

ADULTS 18–55+

10-Week Culinary Intensive

- Adults — \$1,200
- Seniors (55+) — \$795
- TSU/College — \$895
- Earns CE credits

KIDS AGES 6–17

Monthly Youth Saturday

- Per Saturday — \$55
- Sibling rate — \$45
- 4-Session Pack — \$200
- New skill monthly

THE IMPACT — NUMBERS THAT MATTER

200 hrs

Hands-on learning
per intensive

3

Real certifications
co-issued with TSU

3

Ways to cook with us
this year

100%

Of donations fund
Houston participants

THE 10-WEEK CURRICULUM

- W1 Kitchen Safety & Orientation
- W2 ServSafe Food Handler Certification
- W3 Farm-to-Chef Sourcing
- W4 Urban Ag — Harlem River Farms
- W5 Hydroponic Foundations (optional)
- W6 Hydroponic Lab (optional)
- W7 Menu Planning & Budgeting
- W8 Professional Kitchen Techniques
- W9 Judged Culinary Competition
- W10 Workforce Readiness & Graduation

SUPPORT A HOUSTON COOK

Every dollar funds Let's Cook Houston participants — scholarship seats, garden meals, and program access across Houston.

[Sponsor a scholarship seat →](#)

ENROLL · SPONSOR · DONATE

travelvillakitchen.org/let-them-cook

Vendors: maureen@vkculinary.shop
Chef / Lead: aubrey@vkculinary.tech
Payment plans via Credee available.

WHAT EVERY 10-WEEK GRADUATE EARNS

- ServSafe Food Handler Certification
- Farm-to-Chef Sourcing Certificate
- Let's Cook Houston Certificate (co-issued with TSU)
- Continuing Education credits (CE)
- Garden-to-plate meals every session
- Employer showcase & career pipeline

Optional add-on: Hydroponics Lab

Take-home growing system — paid separately to the Metallic Sunflower Foundation.

PROGRAM PARTNERS

VK CAPITAL VENTURES · TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY · HARLEM RIVER FARMS

C.C. BROOKS · METALLIC SUNFLOWER FOUNDATION · VILLA KITCHEN

SIX ROWS CAFÉ

PROVEN WITH FOSTER YOUTH · NOW OPEN TO HOUSTON

*We built it for them. The model worked.
Now the kitchen is open to everyone.*



Building Houston's Culinary *Workforce Pipeline*

A monthly event, a 10-week intensive, and a kids' Saturday — one curriculum, one community.

Let's Cook Houston is one program with three doors. The same garden-to-plate curriculum runs through every product — so a parent, an adult student, and a sponsor each know exactly what to do in seconds. Paid enrollment keeps the program strong; sponsorships and our monthly events fund scholarship seats for Houston participants who need them.

THE PATHWAY — FROM FIRST KITCHEN TO FIRST CAREER



THE 10-WEEK INTENSIVE — WITH TSU

Format	10 weeks · 200 hours
Tracks	Adults 18+ · Seniors 55+ · TSU/college
Credentials	3 certifications + CE credits
Cohorts	Fall & Spring · optional Summer
Home	TSU campus, Houston

Adults, seniors, and TSU/college students learn side by side — classroom, kitchen labs, farm visits, and direct employer engagement in one integrated experience.

WHAT MAKES IT DIFFERENT

- **Farm-to-Table Roots**
With Harlem River Farms, students harvest at a real urban farm — sourcing from the earth, not just the store.
- **Optional Hydroponics Lab**
Add a take-home growing system via the Metallic Sunflower Foundation — paid separately, yours to keep.
- **A Real Jobs Pipeline**
Employer showcase and referrals into culinary, hospitality, and urban-agriculture careers.

PROVEN WITH FOSTER YOUTH · NOW OPEN TO HOUSTON

We built it for them. The model worked. Now we're opening the kitchen to everyone.

Corporate sponsors and community partners power every step. Partner with us to expand this citywide.

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