

IncrEDIBLE Happenings

at Edible Schoolyard New Orleans

Spring 2014

Seasonal Food Celebrations

Strawberries and blueberries made multiple appearances in FirstLine Schools this spring as Edible Schoolyard NOLA brought fresh, local fruits into schools for tastings and activity-filled festivals. Highlights of spring garden events include Blueberry Festivals, Strawberry Tastings, and the Whole Foods Garden Party at Green Charter School when the chickens from LHA came to visit!



Cohorts and Collaborations

The Edible Schoolyard NOLA gardens at **Samuel Green**, **Arthur Ashe** and **Langston Hughes** hosted horticultural

and culinary colleagues and corporate partners this spring, including the Garden Club of America, the New Orleans Citizen Diplomacy Council's culinary professionals from the Near East and North Africa, Chevron, and Whole Foods' Whole Kids Foundation.

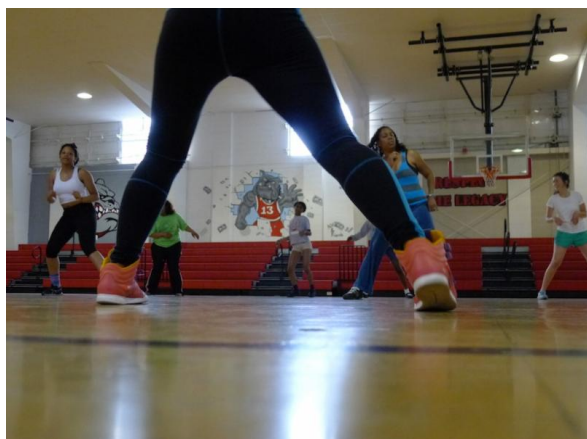
We also contributed to the national conversation around sustainable food systems and food justice at the National Farm to Cafeteria's "Powering Up" conference in Austin, TX, and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's "Harvesting Change" convening in Detroit, MI. As a member of the Louisiana Farm to School working group, ESYNOLA gladly participates in the exchange of best practices and collaborative solutions on increasing farm-to-school programming across the state, and joins in the celebration of a significant state milestone: the unanimous passage of Senate Concurrent Resolution 94, which expresses the intention of the Departments of Agriculture and Education to create a Louisiana Farm to School Program that would result in the increase of school food procurement from local farms. It goes into effect on July 1, 2014.



Lindsey Morton (Whole Foods Market on Broad Street), Adrienne Merrill-Dickey (Whole Kids Foundation), and Kristina Bradford (Whole Foods New Orleans, Metairie and Baton Rouge) are partners across our garden sites, including Langston Hughes Academy's Dreamkeeper Garden, pictured here.

Health & Wellness

As part of FirstLine's comprehensive wellness initiative, a series of free fitness classes spanned the FirstLine network, including Line Dancing with Lady D at John Dibert Community School and Zumba with Mia Rotondo at Joseph S. Clark Preparatory High School.



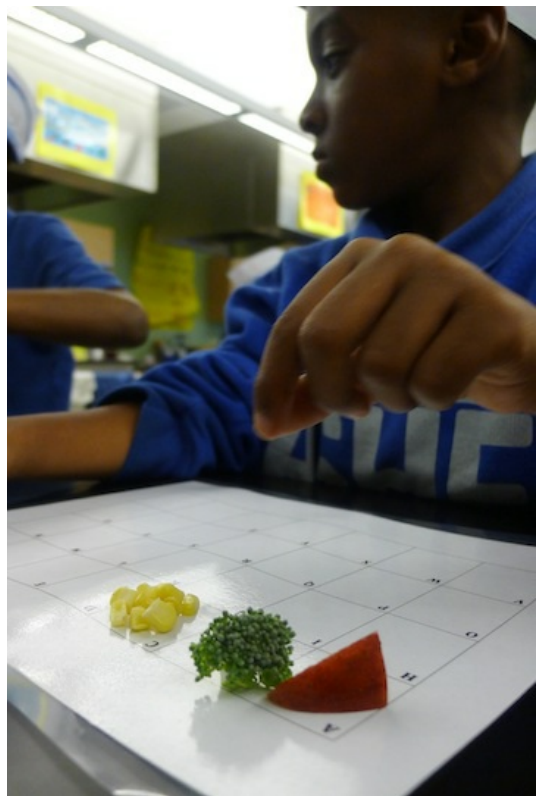
Family Food Events

The spring is a flurry of edible experiences at FirstLine Schools, some of the best of which are Family Food Nights. At Langston Hughes Academy, strawberries were the theme, and nearly everyone walked home with a basket of berries and a pocket full of healthy recipes for how to use them. At Arthur Ashe Charter School, families grilled turkey burgers, and prepared aioli, heart-healthy potato salad, quick pickles, and a feta and strawberry salad.



Edible Classes

Over the course of the trimester, kindergarteners in the Food ABCs class tasted foods from the alphabet one letter at a time. On graduation day, they relived their accomplishment in a single day! Scholars who successfully ate everything on their plate won entrance into the Clean Plate Hall of Fame, and were VERY proud of themselves.



Edible Schoolyard New Orleans thanks all of our individual, corporate, and foundation donors for your generous support of our programming across five FirstLine Schools, including the following sponsors:

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