TasteWise Kids

2016 Annual Report

For more information or to contact us

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Inspiring kids to explore and experience the world of food and its sources.
Children actively explore new concepts and ideas about food through interactive experiences, which is how we believe they learn best.

A field trip to a local farm teaches kids first-hand where their food comes from and encourages them to be more willing to try new and varied foods, especially fruits and vegetables.

**Hands-On Experiments**

**TasteWise Kids**
Educating kids about food, from source to plate
www.tastewisekids.org

When students prepare their own salad and vinaigrette with a chef, they combine their farm experience with their classroom knowledge.

**Focus On Taste**
Students learn to enjoy healthy eating by discovering and balancing the tastes of salty, sweet, bitter, and sour.

**Learn From Experts**
Working with professional chefs and local farmers, kids have the resources to learn directly from role models who are experts in their field.
2016 Accomplishments

TasteWise Kids works to provide discovery-based programming to teach children that healthy fresh food and good tasting food are not mutually exclusive. Kids discovered that good taste, nutritious food, and good health go together, naturally.

In our signature Days of Taste® program, 4th graders work alongside local chefs and farmers to learn about the elements of taste and the journey of food from farm to table.

3,000 students participated in our Days of Taste® program in 2016 in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Howard County, and Harford County.

In Fall 2016, 356 students received take-home salad kits after participating in our Days of Taste® program. These kits allowed them to show off their salad making skills to their families.

Farm to Chef Maryland is TasteWise Kids' annual fundraiser that provides food enthusiasts an exciting, one-of-a-kind experience.

Gathering local farmers, talented chefs, and gifted mixologists together in a culinary competition, our event allows guests to experience original dishes and cocktails that highlight local, fresh ingredients.

Our 2016 event had 460 attendees and raised over $35,000.

We provided the TasteWise Kids Endowed Scholarship at Anne Arundel Community College to Ashley Bopst, in support of students pursuing a degree in hotel/restaurant management, baking and pastry arts, culinary arts or hospitality business.
TasteWise Kids Board of Directors

**Diane Neas, CCP**, is Chair of the TasteWise Kids Board and has been involved with TasteWise Kids since day one of its inception. Outside of TasteWise Kids, Diane is a restaurant consultant. She enjoys most any kind of food with friends as long as there are NO olives or hot peppers.

**Riva Eichner Kahn, PhD**, is Days of Taste® Director, and TasteWise Kids Board Vice-Chair. Riva has been involved with the Days of Taste® program since its inception in the Baltimore area in 1998, and has been National Days of Taste Chair since 2006. Riva retired from the Faculty of The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Riva has been invited to speak at many state and national conferences on food education, student wellness programs and farm-to-school initiatives, and represented Days of Taste® at Michelle Obama’s launch of *Chefs Move to Schools* at the White House in June 2010. Outside of TasteWise Kids and Days of Taste, she is active in several Baltimore area cultural organizations. Her favorite fruits and vegetables are radishes, zucchini, pomegranates and watermelon - depending on the time of year.

**Lon Engel, J.D.,** serves as 2nd Vice President and counsel to TasteWise Kids. He has been involved since TasteWise Kids’ origination and with its Days of Taste program since 2006. Lon is the managing attorney for Engel Law Group, a firm dating back to 1949. He is also co-owner of Engel Family Vineyards in St. Helena, Napa Valley. His favorite vegetable is corn and his favorite comfort food is Ben and Jerry’s Phish Food ice cream.

**Jeff Reinhardt, CPA, CVA,** serves as Treasurer of TasteWise Kids and has been involved since September 2016. Professionally, Jeff is partner/stakeholder with KBST&M Certified Public Accountants and Consultants. In Jeff’s spare time, he enjoys golf, football and coaching youth sports. His favorite vegetable is broccoli.

**Dana Slater,** is the Communications Secretary and has been involved with TasteWise Kids since it began. She has also been part the planning committee for the Farm to Chef Maryland event since 2012. Outside of TasteWise Kids, Dana is the Corporate Relations and Annual Fund Manager at Ladew Gardens and produces the ORIGINS speaker series held monthly at Artifact Coffee. Her favorite vegetable is butternut squash.

**Elizabeth Legenhausen, EdE,** is chair of TasteWise Kids’ Board Nomination Committee She has been serving as a member of the board since 2016 but has a longstanding history with TasteWise Kids primary program, Days of Taste. As former head of St. James Academy, her school community hosted the pilot program for Days of Taste in the 1990’s. Professionally, Betty is the Director of Accreditation Services for 123 members of the Association of Independent MD/DC Schools. Cooking and serving elegant meals to friends and family are a passion of Betty’s. Her favorite foods include chocolate and bitter greens for comfort and health, respectively!
Jerry Edwards, CPCE, has been a TasteWise Kids Board member since 2016 and has been volunteering his time as a chef for its Days of Taste program for over 12 years. Professionally, Jerry is the owner and Corporate Chef of Chef’s Expressions Catering and Consulting. He is very active in many charities for children’s issues, social causes and adult diseases and is the current spokesperson for Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland. Since his career in catering consulting and administration has taken off, he finds peace and solitude in his kitchen where he creates wine dinners for both family and friends. Jerry loves to garden and grows over 30 types of tomatoes each summer.

TasteWise Kids Leadership

Wendy Jeffries, MPP, serves as the Executive Director of TasteWise Kids and was part of a group committed to founding the non-profit in December 2015. In her role as Executive Director, she manages the organization’s core functions, works closely with the Board of Directors, and is building partnerships to increase the reach of the organization. Prior to TasteWise Kids being established, she has been involved with the Days of Taste program since 2009. Ms. Jeffries brings her expertise in using data and research-based practices to improve programs and outcomes for kids and families. She lives in Baltimore City with her husband and daughter where they love to stay active, cook up great meals after buying ingredients at our city’s great farmers’ markets, and visiting new restaurants. While she loves to buy whatever is in season, her favorites are watermelon and butternut squash.
2016 Financials & Supporters

Our Funders
- 32nd Street Farmers Market
- Baltimore Community Foundation
- Quality Of Life Giving Circle
- Harford County Government
- Division of Agriculture
- Harford County Women's Giving Circle
- Howard County Community Foundation
- Howard County Economic Development Authority
- Howard County Farm Bureau
- Howard County Medical Society
- Johns Hopkins Medicine
- Kiwanis Club of Ellicott City
- Laurrapin Grille
- Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation
- Michele's Granola/Give One For Good Food
- QED Systems
- The Helen J. Serini Foundation
- The Horizon Foundation
- The Ravens

Our Collaborators
- Harford County Public School System
- Baltimore City Food PAC
- Baltimore City Public Schools Food & Nutrition Department
- Baltimore County Public Schools
- Howard County Leadership Essentials Program
- Howard County Master Gardeners
- Healthy Harford
- Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition
- Howard County Public School System
- Howard County-Our Environment in Our Hands Program
- Strong City Baltimore

Our Supporters
- Atwater's
- Chef's Expressions
- The Classic Catering People
- The Roving Radish
- Vann's Spices

TASTEWISE KIDS INCOME 2016
- Individual & Board Donations: 32%
- School System Support: 5%
- Special Events: 6%
- Specific Program Grants and Funding: 3%
- Corporate and Community Support: 54%

TASTEWISE KIDS EXPENSES 2016
- Programming: 79%
- General & Administration: 21%
Participating Farms

- Baltimore County Agricultural Center
- Baltimore Orchard Project
- Brad’s Produce
- Buppert’s Doran Chance Farm
- Calvert’s Gift Farm
- Catoctin Mountain Farm
- Charlottetown Farm
- Cherry Glen Goat Cheese
- Crow Farm
- Dear Meadow Farm
- Evermore Farm
- Farms Systems Lab at Cylburn
- Flying Plow Farm
- Gather Baltimore
- Gorman Farm
- Grand View Farm
- Great Kids Farm
- Gunpowder Bison and Trading Co.
- Hollywood Oyster Company
- Hooper’s Island Oyster Aquaculture
- Karma Farm
- Kilby Cream
- Little Gunpowder Farm
- Love Dove Farm
- Mary’s Land Farm
- Myrtle Woods Farm
- One Straw Farm
- P.A. Bowen Farmstead
- Prigel Family Creamery
- Prosperity Acres
- Rare Opportunity Farm
- Rastafarmi
- Real Food Farm
- Savory Farms LLC
- Shepherds Manor Creamery
- Springfield Farm
- Third Way Farm
- Three Springs Fruit Farm
- TLV Tree Farm
- Top of the Hill Apiary
- Two Boots Farm
- Whistle Pig Hollow
- Wild Peace Farm
Participating Chefs

- David Alima, The Charmery
- Antonio Burell, Petit Louis Bistro Columbia
- Joseph Cotton, Sodexo at the National Aquarium
- Wilbur Cox Jr., The Elkridge Club
- Donna Crivello, Cosima
- Jim DeChiara, Centre Park Grill
- Casey Donovan, The Ravens
- Jerry Edwards, Chef’s Expressions
- Barry Fleischmann, Scratch Mill Kitchen
- Jerry Gaintner, Harryman House
- Spike Gjerde, Woodberry Kitchen
- Mickey Graham, Stella Notte
- Robbin Haas, Birroteca
- Therese Harding, The Classic Catering People
- Tommy Hawkins, Slainte Irish Pub & Restaurant
- Dustin Heflin, Baldwin’s Station
- Josh Hershkovitz, Hersh’s Pizza & Drinks
- Keith Holsey, Portalli’s
- Neill Howell, The Corner Pantry
- John Hufnagel, Ten Ten
- Joe Lancelotta, Conrad's Seafood Restaurant
- Sandy Lawler, Sandy’s Feast
- James Lewandowski, Petit Louis Bistro Columbia
- Chris Lewis, Aida Bistro
- Melanie Molinaro, Stall 11
- Tinille Moore, The Ravens
- Dimitri Moshovitis, Cava Mezze
- Susan Muldoon, Vandiver Inn
- Kevin Miller, Copper Kitchen
- Nona Nielsen, Vandiver Inn
- Jesse Sandlin, Mama’s on the Half Shell
- Kristina Sciarra, Laurrepin
- John Shields, Gertrude’s at the BMA
- Alex Thacker, Dooby’s
- David Thomas, Ida B’s Table
- Jerry Trice, Gunther & Co.
- Daniela Troia, Plantbar
- Jose Useche, Alma Cocina Latina
- Christopher Voci, Alexandra’s American Fusion
- Dan Wecker, Elkridge Furnace Inn
- Doug Wetzel, Gertrude’s
- Eric Yeager, Stratford University
- Thomas Zippelli, The Turn House

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