

The Clubhouse Recap

Our 2026 **Fit to a Tee** winter culinary class is in full swing, and this session’s theme, **Let’s Cook Cleveland**, is giving participants the chance to explore the cultures, flavors, and techniques that make Cleveland’s food scene so unique! On a sunny and warmer than normal Sunday afternoon in early March, First Tee – Cleveland’s Fit to a Tee culinary program congregated at **Park to Shop** on the east side of the city to explore everything the Pan-Asian supermarket had to offer.

The field trip – arranged by First Tee staffer **Leslie Kleinman** and led by volunteer **Vivian He** – exposed kids to food from halfway around the world. The group navigated the crowded corridors methodically, inspecting the products with both precision and curiosity.

“Some people don’t get a chance to travel to a place like China because it’s so far way,” said 11-year-old **Molly Nicholls**. “This gives us a different perspective of food while staying here.”

He welcomed the opportunity to introduce the kids to food from her homeland. She was born in China and has lived in the Cleveland area for more than two decades.

“Food is a great way to learn about the world and other cultures,” Vivian said. “That was our goal.”

Count **Gus Branco** among the kids who were captivated by the culinary adventure. Minutes into his first visit to an international grocery store, it was clear the 12-year-old was grateful for the experience.

“It’s really cool to see how other people shop for their food,” he said.

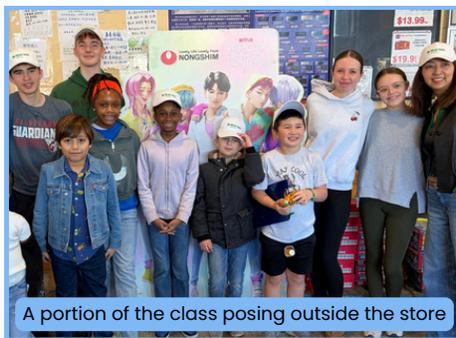
With ingredients from the Asian market, the class planned to prepare wonton soup, vegetable stir fry and hot pot filled with fish balls, beef and sweet potato noodles. Last year, the kids made dishes such as Sicilian rice balls, Nigerian Jollof rice and Persian meatballs.

“Cooking is cool because everybody does their own thing, but we all come together in the end to make awesome meals,” Molly said.

The sixth and final Fit to a Tee class is set for March 22 where the participants will cook for their families to show off the new skills and techniques they’ve been working on.



Maggie and Molly with the international Oreos



A portion of the class posing outside the store



Gus, 12, checking off items on his shopping list

Next on the Tee

March Madness

Join First Tee – Cleveland’s March Madness Pool and take part in the NCAA Men’s Basketball Tournament bracket challenge. First and second place winners will receive prizes, and the rest of the pot will support First Tee – Cleveland’s positive impact on local youth

How it Works:

- Donation/Entry fee: \$25 per bracket
 - Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to make your donation on GiveSmart. (A \$25 donation is required for each bracket you would like to play in the tournament.)
- Set up account on CBSsports.com
 - Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to join the bracket (called First Tee – Cleveland March Madness Pool – Men’s Bracket). Select your teams by 10:00 AM EST on March 19.



Taste of the Tee

You’re invited! Join us on April 23 at First Tee – Cleveland’s Woodworth Activity Center for an unforgettable evening where top club chefs team up with First Tee participants for a one-of-a-kind culinary experience!

Event Highlights:

- Hors d’oeuvres and small plates by four top county club chefs
- Desserts by TRI–C’s Hospitality Management team
- Presentation of the **Golden Whisk Award** to the club whose chef creates the winning dish
- Libations, Music, Auction & more!

Registration:

- Tickets are \$125 per person. Click [here](#) or scan the QR code for complete event details and to register.



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For contributions or inquiries, please contact MARKETING@firstteecleveland.org