



Gala

October 20, 2026 • 6-10 pm

The Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers

Part of  **Greenbuild**
by Informa

About us

Established in 2002, Urban Green is New York's leading nonprofit advancing sustainable, healthy and resilient buildings. We combine extensive in-house expertise with deep industry relationships across real estate, design, construction, and government. Our market-driven research, policy and education set the standard for how cities approach building decarbonization.

Buildings matter, accounting for 70 percent of carbon emissions in New York City. We focus on practical solutions that electrify buildings, improve efficiency and reduce energy costs. Together, we're building solutions for climate change.

The Gala

The Urban Green Gala is a special night of celebration for the sustainable building community and serves as our largest fundraiser of the year, powering our critical research, policy and education.

This year, the Gala will kick off [Greenbuild](#) in New York City and bring together sustainability professionals worldwide for a lively evening of connection and conversation.

Our Gala will be held on **October 20 at The Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers in Manhattan**. We hope you'll join us for cocktails, dinner and dessert, and a celebration of our 2026 Honoree, Rick Cook.

Learn more at urbangreencouncil.org/gala

Gala Honoree



Rick Cook

*Founding Partner
and Design Director,
COOKFOX Architects*

For more than four decades, Rick has helped redefine the relationship between architecture, nature, and the built environment. His

work is driven by the belief that beautiful, high-performance buildings can improve human health while advancing environmental stewardship and strengthening cities.

After leading Richard Cook & Associates for 14 years, Rick co-founded [COOKFOX Architects](#) with Bob Fox in 2003 around a shared vision: design excellence guided by sustainability, collaboration, and a deep connection to place. Under his leadership, the firm has become internationally recognized for pioneering environmentally responsive architecture, achieving some of the city's most renowned buildings, including One Bryant Park, St. John's Terminal, the Marymount School, and the Betances Residence.

Rick has set the standard for biophilic design, adaptive reuse and low-carbon performance, showing how buildings can lower emissions while creating healthier, more resilient communities—a legacy we're honored to celebrate.



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The Héctor Figueroa Leadership Award

Honoring the life and legacy of Héctor
Figueroa



Héctor Figueroa was a monumental figure in New York City and beyond, fighting for a healthy, sustainable future and good jobs for working people. He made sustainable building operations a cornerstone

of worker training and was a champion for immigrant rights and social justice locally and nationally. And he did it all with compassion, grace, and a knack for bringing people together.

Urban Green Council was honored to work with and learn from Héctor, who served on our Board of Directors for three years. He made an indelible impression on all who met him and left an incredible legacy of activism. To celebrate his life and honor the lasting impact he made, we created the Héctor Figueroa Leadership Award, presented annually at our Gala. And we're proud to present this year's award to Linda G. Nelson.

Linda G. Nelson

*Director,
32BJ Training Fund*



With over 30 years of experience, Linda oversees the administration of the 32BJ Training Fund, which trains over 25,000 union members each year and offers more than 260 different course titles—from English as a Second Language to Green Buildings. In addition to managing the nearly 40 green courses offered by the Fund, Linda is a primary driver of the Sustainability Committee at 32BJ which includes producing Climate Week and Earth Day events.

Prior to joining the Fund, Linda served in many roles in non-profit organizations. She ran programs for homeless individuals and families on welfare for The Partnership for the Homeless and the Partnership for New York City. She then developed and managed programs assisting unemployed workers in the aftermath of 9/11 at the Consortium for Worker Education.

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Steven Winter Associates

Whitting-Turner





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Tickets and sponsorship

The Urban Green Gala—which sells out to over 300 people every year—is an unforgettable night that helps us advance our mission to decarbonize buildings for healthy and resilient communities. Putting your brand behind Urban Green’s critical decarbonization efforts is the perfect way to demonstrate your commitment to sustainable building. We provide several levels of sponsorship that come with their own unique opportunities to showcase your brand:

Chairman - \$29,000 | (Tax-deductible amt: \$27,350)

Premier Dessert Table for 10, prominent placement in all Gala promotional materials, exclusive signage at event, and full-page ad in Gala program.

Benefactor - \$18,000 | (Tax-deductible amt: \$16,350)

Preferred Dessert Table for 10, prominent placement in all Gala promotional materials, exclusive signage at event, and half-page ad in Gala program.

Host - \$12,000 | (Tax-deductible amt: \$10,350)

Select Dessert Table for 10, prominent placement in all Gala promotional materials, exclusive signage at event, and half-page ad in Gala program.

Patron - \$9,000 | (Tax-deductible amt: \$8,340)

Four tickets with preferred seating, a half-page ad in Gala program, and prominent placement in all Gala promotional materials.

Supporter - \$3,500 | (Tax-deductible amt: \$3,170)

Two tickets with reserved seating, and listing in all Gala promotional materials.

Friend - \$1,800 | (Tax-deductible amt: \$1,635)

Single Ticket

To purchase tickets, please contact Casey Cady at
cc@urbangreencouncil.org or (212) 514-9385 ext.305

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Additional Sponsorship Activations

Gala After Party Sponsorship – \$35,000 | Tax-deductible amt: \$33,350

Be the exclusive sponsor of the Gala's two-hour afterparty, with your brand front and center as guests move from dinner to celebration.

Benefits: Chairman level benefits with premier table for 10, on-stage recognition, exclusive signage, and listing in all Gala materials.

Seated Dessert Sponsorship – \$17,000 | Tax-deductible amt: \$14,880

Showcase your brand at every dessert table, a high-visibility moment when guests pause and connect.

Benefits: Four tickets with preferred seating, logo on tables, recognition on website and Gala materials.

Dessert Cart Sponsorship – \$15,000 | Tax-deductible amt: \$13,050

Feature your brand on the enhanced dessert cart, one of the most photographed gathering points.

Benefits: Four tickets with preferred seating, logo on cart, recognition on website and Gala materials.

Enhanced Dinner Station Sponsorship – \$15,000 | Tax-deductible amt: \$13,050

Place your brand at the heart of the dining experience, visible as guests circulate and socialize.

Benefits: Four tickets with preferred seating, logo on station, recognition on website and Gala materials.

Photobooth Sponsorship – \$10,000 | Tax-deductible amt: \$4,340

Your brand featured on the photobooth, one of the night's most shared and lasting experiences.

Benefits: Logo on booth, recognition on website and Gala materials.



Specialty Cocktail Sponsorship – \$3,000 | Tax-deductible amt: \$1,736

Sponsor a signature cocktail named for your company—a fun, toast-worthy way to gain visibility.

Benefits: Logo/signage branded drink name, recognition on website and Gala materials.

