



CHARLOTTE CAPAN

Founder and Visionary

Charlotte Capan's entrance into the culinary industry may not be traditional, but her fervor for food and entertaining has always been a major part of her everyday life. An ambitious entrepreneur, Charlotte has taken her love for all things food-related and combined this passion with an astute business background to form an exciting new company – Le Culinaire Concierge. Providing custom tailored on-site cooking events designed to bring people together, Charlotte is dedicated to serving up a memorable occasion.

Like many young girls Charlotte's love affair with cooking began in the form of a small oven with the amazing baking power of a high wattage light bulb. She proudly produced many delectable Easy-Bake treats for her loving parents and siblings, until one day this young chef got a little carried away. "I ate all the cakes in one day and my mom took it away. That is when I was forced to get my fix watching mom and grandma in the kitchen," recounts Charlotte. Her time observing was well spent though as she attributes much of her culinary inspiration to her mother and grandmother.

From her childhood home in Minnesota, Charlotte set out for Southern California to pursue an education in fashion and business. Upon graduation, Charlotte worked in a variety of positions for some key players in the fashion and film production industries, providing her with a vast wealth of knowledge and hands-on experience in business operations, marketing and management. After moving to the culinary capital of the West—the Bay Area, nearly ten years later, Charlotte followed her adoration for cooking and took a position in operations with the California Culinary Academy (CCA), developing and executing many of their high-profile events. After realizing the benefit large companies found in attending their cooking events, Charlotte knew it was time to combine her corporate background with her love of the culinary world and the rest, as they say, is history.

In addition to launching and running her successful business, Charlotte has also managed the celebrity culinary events for Macy's San Francisco which broadened her network of esteemed top national and local chefs. Charlotte also makes frequent trips to Italy to visit her "Italian family," as she calls them and friends and to scour the country's gourmet markets, utterly fascinated with all of the regional delicacies and ingredients—a hobby she enjoys wherever her travels take her. Charlotte continues to enjoy the "European feel" of San Francisco and is planning on opening a gourmet Italian market here in Spring 2008.