



Bard  
Graduate  
Center: Decorative  
Arts, Design  
History, Material  
Culture

Susan Weber  
BGC Founder and Director

&  
the Buffet Committee

request the pleasure of your company  
at a Buffet Reception and Silent Auction  
to celebrate the exhibition

## The Buffet Party Entertaining with American Ingenuity

to benefit the Bard Graduate Center  
Scholarship Fund

Tuesday, November 17, 2009  
6:30–9 pm

38 West 86th Street

Cocktail attire or dress in the spirit of the 1930s and '40s

Detail of advertisement for  
Chase, Brass & Copper Co., Inc.,  
Waterbury,  
CT, from *House Beautiful* 75 (May  
1934): 123. Courtesy of Art &  
Architecture Collection, Miriam  
& Ira D. Wallach  
Division of Art, Prints and  
Photographs,  
The New York Public Library,  
Astor, Lenox and Tilden  
Foundations

## Exhibition

“The buffet table of the moment, glowing with color and enticing come-hither, is the perfect expression of friendly hospitality, ideally in keeping with the spirit of the times.”

- Emily Post, *How to Give a Buffet Party*, 1933

*The Buffet Party: Entertaining with American Ingenuity* explores how the fashion of entertaining at home, buffet style, initially arose out of necessity due to economic and lifestyle changes during the Great Depression. Following the example of Eleanor Roosevelt in the White House, many budget-conscious hostesses turned to the self-serving buffet party as a way to entertain on a grand scale without the requirements of a traditional seated dinner. In the 1930s and '40s the buffet party skyrocketed in popularity and became a phenomenon in its own right – an American essential.

## Silent Auction

Here is your chance to own extraordinary objects from the exhibition so you too can host the perfect buffet party in your own home!

The silent auction will feature smart-looking, streamlined, and functional accessories from the 1930s and '40s to help you entertain with style and ease, including a wine cooler by **Rockwell Kent**, a canapé tray and American Modern dinnerware by **Russel Wright**, a Coronet Coffee Urn by **Walter Von Nessen**, and much more.

Since its founding in 1993, the Bard Graduate Center, an international study and exhibition center in New York City, has aimed to become the leading graduate institution for the study of the cultural history of the material world.

The BGC is committed to the encyclopedic study of things, drawing on methodologies and approaches from art and design history, economic and cultural history, history of technology, philosophy, anthropology, and archaeology. Students enrolled in the M.A. and Ph.D. programs work closely with a distinguished faculty of active scholars in exploring the interrelationships between works of art and craft, design, places, ideas, and social and cultural practice in courses ranging from the ancient times to the twenty-first century.

Support for the Scholarship Fund is vital as it enables the Bard Graduate Center to recruit the most talented and promising students from around the world, regardless of financial need.

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# RSVP

\_\_\_ Host(ess) **\$12,000**  
\$10,500 is tax-deductible

- Fifteen tickets
- Special recognition at the event and in the program
- BGC exhibition catalogues for two years
- Two complimentary tickets to a special patron dinner
- Newly designed BGC tote bag

\_\_\_ Friend **\$1,000**  
\$900 is tax-deductible

- One ticket
- One BGC exhibition catalogue of your choice
- Newly designed BGC tote bag

\_\_\_ Guest **\$500**  
\$450 is tax-deductible

- One ticket
- Newly designed BGC tote bag

\_\_\_ Patron **\$250**  
\$200 is tax-deductible

- One ticket

I am unable to attend, but would like to contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
to the Bard Graduate Center.

Please note there will not be designated  
seating at this event.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Please list how you wish to be recognized)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone E-mail

\_\_\_\_\_  
Guest(s)

## Method of Payment

Enclosed please find my check for \$  
(Please make checks payable to the Bard Graduate Center)

Credit Card  AMEX  MC  VISA

\_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number Expiration Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name on Card Signature

For further information  
P 212 501 3071 F 212 501 3079  
E alvarenga@bgc.bard.edu

We regret that no refunds will be given.

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Please print and  
fax/mail this form to:

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