

PULSE
OF THE FOOD MOVEMENT

Greetings!

We are thrilled to share with you our interview with Kat Taylor, a report on our first live-audience podcast and an update on the new sugary beverage tax campaign. Next week watch for our daily reports on the Slow Food Nations event in Denver.

Flipping the Table Features a Leader for our Time

In our latest podcast, Kat Taylor, noted holistic thinker, [banking entrepreneur](#), grass-finished [beef producer](#) and [philanthropist](#) offers incisive comments that reveal a powerful intellect and welcome vision for our democracy and world. Responding to a series of questions about her life and work, Kat offers honest and hard-hitting statements related to socially responsible banking; reckoning with our nation’s violent history; why those “who have the power to change the status quo rarely use it;” how she went from vegetarian to grass-finished beef producer; where her husband, presidential candidate [Tom Steyer](#), targets his political contributions to reinvigorate democracy.



There are many moments in the interview that we applaud and believe you will too. Two really struck us. When talking about philanthropy, she said, “I don’t see any point in perpetuating institutions that think they are going to outlive climate disaster and social chaos.” And later, when asked why, given her busy life, she accepted the chair of the Advisory Board of the [UC Davis Agricultural Sustainability Institute](#), she said, “I want to be part of the new research agenda that could dismantle industrial ag and give us something that is scaled enough to meet the needs of food production in our time...but do it in a way that’s ecologically and financially sustainable and has equity at its heart.” It is a fascinating and inspiring conversation, one we’d appreciate hearing from the next First Lady or a President.



Sugary Beverage Tax Campaign Rises from the Ashes

We are committed to continuing the struggle to pass a sugary beverage tax to protect our kids and communities from preventable diseases and other health



disparities. There are rumors afloat that the beverage industry is in talks with the Governor to pass a super low tax that would not sufficiently fund prevention programs like better school food, more nutrition incentives and education and community food projects that build the food sovereignty of underserved communities. In order to prevent another sell out to BIG SODA as has [happened again this year](#), we are joining our allies today in [a call to the Legislature](#) to stiffen its spine and do the right thing. With the

help of frontline community members, legislators could craft a tax measure that ensures that clean and affordable water is conveniently accessible everywhere, and a wide array of community-desired prevention actions are included. The future health and resilience of California requires that state legislators cut their ties to BIG SODA money.

Enlightening Conversation at First Live-Audience Event in San Francisco



The dialogue between [Duskie Estes](#), [Anthony Myint](#) - who just won a [prestigious international award](#) for combating climate change - and Michael Dimock with a very diverse and engaged audience produced some innovative potential solutions to the staggering challenges restaurant businesses in the Bay Area face: disappearing middle class, high real estate cost, greedy landlords, small profit margins, tech companies providing their own food to employees, unfair tip laws, and the collapse of local farms.... the list is long.



One of the audience members suggested for tech companies to offer vouchers to their employees to encourage them to eat at local restaurants and thereby supporting the local economy. A great idea! Stay tuned for the live podcast recording, which will air next Tuesday, July 23rd.

We want to thank the young cooks, entrepreneurs, techies and foodies and all other guests who showed up for our first live podcast. Many thanks to [Manny Yekutieli](#) for offering his great thoughts during the dialog and for hosting us in his warm and welcoming [venue](#).

Flipping the Table to Drop Dailies from Slow Food Nations

Flipping the Table will record at least six podcasts over three days, including a daily update. [Subscribe to Flipping the Table](#) with Michael Reid Dimock to follow

Subscribe to Flipping the Table Podcast

For the third year running, Slow Food USA is mounting [Slow Food Nations](#), a celebration of America's diverse food communities in Denver, Colorado. ROC leader and Flipping the Table host, Michael Reid Dimock, was an international leader of Slow Food from 2000-07. He maintains links to and collaborations with the organization. He will be there to host thought provoking conversations about the future of the movement. This includes an interview with [Paolo di Croce](#), the general secretary of Slow Food International. Paolo succeeded movement founder, [Carlo Petrini](#), who now focuses on writing, advising global influencers and teaching at Slow Food Italy's [University of Gastronomic Sciences](#) in Pollenzo.



This is the 30th Anniversary of Slow Food International and nearly 20 years since Slow Food USA began stimulating the development in the US of a middle class, eater-based movement focused on food system transformation. It is a good time to engage its leaders and members in honest dialogue about successes, failures and the path ahead. The organization has declared an intention to support equity, inclusion and justice work. The Denver event will feature several panels and meals focused on those movement goals.

Thank you for your interest and your support!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Doris Meier'.

Doris Meier
Publisher, Pulse of the Food Movement
The Newsletter of Roots of Change
A Program of the Public Health Institute

The logo for 'Roots of Change' features the words 'Roots of Change' in a bold, sans-serif font. The word 'Roots' is in green, and 'of Change' is in orange. A stylized carrot with green leaves is positioned above the letter 'o' in 'Roots'.

