

After stints in several restaurants in the Cleveland area, Karen Small opened The Flying Fig in Ohio City in 1999. A self taught chef and a staunch supporter of local farms, she culled a vision to open a restaurant with a neighborhood vibe that furthered her commitment to local farms, artisanal food producers, and the growth of the downtown area.

The Fig, as it is affectionately called by it's customers, going into it's 17<sup>th</sup> year has long been at the forefront of the farm to table movement and continues to garner praise, both nationally and locally for its farm to table cuisine. It has featured in Food and Wine, Gourmet, and the New York Times, as well as several other regional and local publications.

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Karen enthusiastically gives back to the community, by volunteering with local non profits and schools, and frequently teaches cooking classes with children as well as the financially challenged to try to encourage healthier eating.