

*About
Les Dames d'Escoffier International*

Les Dames d'Escoffier, International (LDEI) is composed of 1,350 women of high achievement in the areas of food, beverage, and hospitality. Its missions are education, advocacy, and philanthropy. Having been granted a charter by Les Amis d'Escoffier, the initial Les Dames d'Escoffier chapter was founded in New York in 1976. In 1985, LDEI was formed as an umbrella organization to unite and support individual chapters.

Through its 28 chapters in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom, LDEI is dedicated to supporting and promoting the achievement of women in the culinary professions and to fostering excellence through education and mutual support, as well as philanthropic activities to benefit our communities. Chapters operate under their own individual structures, with member bases, events, and activities as diverse as the cities in which they reside.

Our international membership reflects the multi-faceted fields that encompass contemporary gastronomy. Les Dames members include chefs and restaurateurs; caterers; educators; culinary historians, food editors, authors, and writers; hoteliers and hotel executives; vintners, vineyard owners, and wine merchants; chocolatiers and bakers; food scientists and dietitians; communications specialists; lawyers; and food retailers, manufacturers, and purveyors. All have distinguished themselves in their fields. Membership is by invitation.

Women of great professional stature have been inducted as Grande Dames, including Carol Brock, Les Dames founder; Julia Child, teacher/author; M.F.K. Fisher, philosopher/author; Anne Willan, teacher/author; Edna Lewis, restaurateur; Alice Waters, restaurateur/author; Madeleine Kamman, teacher/author; and Marcella Hazan, teacher/author.

*Les Dames d'Escoffier International
Worldwide Chapters*

Atlanta, GA
Austin, TX
Boston, MA
British Columbia, Canada
Charleston, SC
Chicago, IL
Cleveland, OH
Colorado
Dallas, TX
Hawaii
Houston, TX
Kansas City, KS
Los Angeles, CA
London, UK
Miami, FL
Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN
Monterey Bay, CA
New York, NY
Northeast
Palm Springs, CA
Philadelphia, PA
Phoenix, AZ
San Antonio, TX
San Diego, CA
San Francisco, CA
St. Louis, MO
Seattle, WA
Washington, DC

Les Dames d'Escoffier



Les Dames d'Escoffier, Seattle Chapter is an invitational organization of women leaders in food, beverage, and hospitality whose mission is education, advocacy, and philanthropy.

Every other year, Les Dames, Seattle undertakes a major fundraising auction, with a smaller fundraising event in alternating years. The group's existing endowments are open funds, and donations are always welcome.

Les Dames d'Escoffier, Seattle Chapter
5053 NE 178th St.
Seattle, WA 98155
206-363-1602

www.lesdamesseattle.com

About our Chapter

Chartered in 1989 with 16 founding members, the Seattle Chapter of Les Dames d'Escoffier, International currently comprises 62 members. A 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable organization, Les Dames, Seattle focuses on raising funds for scholarships for women in the culinary, beverage, and hospitality industries. We also support community-outreach programs and sustainable-agriculture projects. All our efforts are based in Washington State.

Programs and Projects

■ To date, we have disbursed more than \$417,000, including \$50,000 to 55 women engaged in culinary studies. Our [SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENTS](#) comprise a \$110,000 endowment at Seattle Central Community College's Culinary Academy; a \$107,000 endowment at Washington State University's Viticulture and Enology Program; a \$50,000 endowment at Washington State University's Hospitality Program (honoring Dame Gretchen Mathers); a \$50,000 endowment at Renton Technical College; a \$25,000 endowment at South Seattle Community College Culinary Program (honoring Dame Kathleen Stang); and a \$25,000 endowment at South Seattle Community College's Wine Technology Program.

■ We also gifted \$50,000 to Seattle Central Community College's [PLANT SCIENCE LAB AND GREENHOUSE](#), a state-of-the-art classroom garden in which students learn garden-to-table practices.

■ In 2005, the LDEI Board of Directors created [GREEN TABLES](#) (www.greentables.org), a farm-and-garden philanthropic initiative designed to enable chapters around the country to continue to serve their individual communities while also working together on a broader national issue: to link urban and rural farms and gardens to school, restaurant, and kitchen tables.

■ In 2010, the Seattle Chapter began offering Green Tables [GRANTS](#) (www.lesdamesseattle.com/seattlegreentables) to qualified 501(c)(3) organizations in Washington State that teach and train students and personnel in areas such as seasonality and healthy cooking, innovative solutions to provide healthy meals in schools, and early learning and exposure in schools of the garden-to-table (cafeteria) cycle.

Les Dames d'Escoffier, Seattle Chapter

Our Chapter was founded in 1989 with 16 members. Today our membership totals 62.

Nicole Aloni, *Cookbook Author/Freelance Writer/Teacher*

Linda Burner Augustine, *Recipe Development/Culinary Instructor*

Monique Barbeau, *Chef*

Gwenyth Caldwell Bassetti, *The Grand Central Bakery, Founder*

Gina Batali, *Salumi Artisan Cured Meats, Owner*

Patrice Benson, *Mushroom Inc.*

Fran Bigelow, *Fran's Chocolates, Owner*

Karen Binder, *Madison Park Cafe, Owner*

Rebecca Bolin, *Pastry Chef/Instructor*

Jerilyn Cheney Brusseau, *Culinary Design and Counsel*

Marilyn Carlson, *Dogwood Solutions, Owner*

Kathy Casey, *Kathy Casey Food Studios - Liquid Kitchen*

Bridget Charters, *Art Institute of Seattle, Instructor*

Linda Chauncey, *Seattle Culinary Academy, Assoc. Dean/Instructor*

Maria Coassin, *Gelatiamo, Owner*

Cathy Conner, *Studio C, Owner*

Danielle R. Custer, *TASTE Restaurant & Events, Director/Consultant*

Susy Davidson, *American Express Restaurant Briefing*

Diana Dillard, *Shorewood High School Culinary Arts, Instructor*

Nancy A. Donier, *Kaspar's Special Events & Catering, Owner*

Lisa Dupar, *Dupar & Company/Pomegranate Bistro, Owner/Author*

Rose Ann Finkel, *Pike Brewing Company, Owner*

Alice Gautsch Foreman, *Gautsch & Assoc. Inc., PR/Consulting*

Kyle D. Fulwiler, *Former Governor's Mansion, Chef/Author*

Patricia Gelles, *Klipsun Vineyards, General Partner*

Beverly Gruber, *Gourmet Travel Culinary Tours, Owner*

Joy Gulmon-Huri, *Seattle Culinary Academy, Program Manager*

Molly Hancock, *Starbucks Coffee Company*

Catherine Hazen, *Hazen and Associates, Owner*

Julie Hearne, *Taste and Company, Partner*

Joanne Herron, *Le Pichet LLC, Partner*

Lane Hoss, *Anthony's Restaurants*

Kären Jurgensen, *Seattle Culinary Academy, Chef Instructor*

Susan Kaufman, *Serafina Osteria & Cicchetti Kitchen, Owner*

Katherine Kehrli, *Celebrated Chefs, EVP, Marketing*

Sharon Kramis, *Food Consultant, Anthony's Restaurants/Author*

Nancy Lazara, *FoodMatch Inc., Mediterranean Foods*

Judy Lew, *Harbor Cafe, Owner*

Leslie L. Mackie, *Macrina Bakery and Caf , Partner*

Martha Marino, *Washington State Dairy Council, Dietitian*

Sue McCown, *Sue McCown Pastry Consultant, LLC*

Dorene Centioli McTigue, *Pagliacci Pizza, Founder*

Sharon Meehan, *Starbucks Coffee Company*

Pam Montgomery, *Chukar Cherry Company, Inc., Owner*

Jane F. Morimoto, *Food Consultant*

Rebecca Murphy, *Wine Writer/Competition Producer*

Amy Muzyka-McGuire, *Food & Nutrition Communications, Owner*

JoAnne Naganawa, *Kitchen Resources*

Susan Neel, *McCrea Cellars, Co-Owner, Sales & Marketing*

Cynthia Nims, *Mon App tit, LLC*

Anne Nisbet, *IPNC, Culinary Director & cookie |box|, Co-owner*

Christina Orchid, *Chef/Farmer/Culinary Educator/Author*

Jamie Peha, *Peha Promotions/Table Talk Radio*

Braiden Rex-Johnson, *Author/Food & Wine Columnist*

Marcella Rosene, *Pasta & Co., Founder*

Norma Rosenthal, *Norma Rosenthal Public Relations, LLC*

Cheryl Sesnon, *Jubilee Women's Center, Executive Director*

Kay Simon, *Chinook Wines, Winemaker/Partner*

Holly Smith, *Cafe Juanita, Chef/Owner*

Kim Smith, *Renton Technical College, Baking Instructor*

Cindy Sund, *Hood Canal Charters, Owner*

Deba Wegner, *Recipe for Success, Inc., Principal*