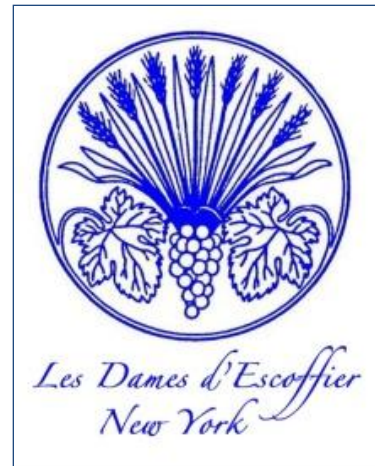


For Immediate Release

LES DAMES D'ESCOFFIER NEW YORK CHAPTER WELCOMES 14 NEW MEMBERS

New York, NY, – Les Dames d'Escoffier New York (LDNY)—the founding and largest chapter of the philanthropic organization Les Dames d'Escoffier International (LDEI)—inducted 14 new members at a celebratory reception on September 25th. Welcomed into their roster:



Joan Brower of The Dilenscheider Group. Director of this leading public relations agency's Wine and Hospitality practice, Joan has worked on a diverse range of wine, spirits, destination, cruise line and luxury hotel accounts. The leitmotif in all of her clients' campaigns is gastronomy.

Donna Capobianco Boland, Cooking Instructor and Recipe Developer. A culinary counselor at Cooking by the Book, Donna has developed recipes for the iconic Joy of Cooking and several other books. Her passion is helping to educate the next generation of women in the food publications business.

Joan Coukos, Founder, President and Chocolatier of Chocolate Moderne. Joan has successfully merged her business acumen with a passion for chocolate in this luxury artisan chocolate company that is celebrating its tenth year and has won the sofi™ Gold Award for Outstanding Chocolate in both 2012 and 2013.

Cathy Coluccio Fazzolari, Co-owner of D. Coluccio & Sons, Inc. Cathy has a lifetime experience in the Italian Food Importing business, with a passion for finding authentic Italian products. Cathy also teaches cooking with an emphasis on the healthful benefits of food.

Sharon Franke, Director of Kitchen Appliances and Technology at the Good Housekeeping Research Institute. Sharon Franke is the go-to expert on all things appliance-related in the publishing industry and beyond.

Marilyn Krieger, Ph.D. Director of Public Relations for Winebow, Inc. A leading national importer of fine wines, spirits, and sakes from around the world, Marilyn is a member of NY Women's Culinary Alliance and holds a Certified Specialist of Wine from the Society of Wine Educators.

Susan Lifrieri-Lowry. After 15 years as a restaurant pastry chef, she is now a Professor of Baking and Pastry Arts at City Tech., CUNY, where she also administrates the Anna Nurse Scholarship Workshop Series at City Tech., CUNY. Susan spent eleven years at The French Culinary Institute, seven of them as Director of Faculty Administration.

Rachel Litner. Founder of the eponymous Rachel Litner Associates (RLA) Public Relations and Strategic Marketing agency in 1996, she counts Cuisinart and Waring among her long-standing clients. Her experience as a magazine editor as well as a corporate PR and marketing executive gives RLA a unique perspective on the needs of the media.

Maureen Luchejko. Food Stylist, Recipe Developer/Editor and Culinary Educator, Maureen has held staff positions at Good Housekeeping, Woman's World Magazine and Family Circle. Her styling clients include Disney Productions, Bravo Network and Univision.

May Matta-Aliah. A Certified Wine Educator and president of *In The Grape*, an organization dedicated to wine and spirits education. With over 12 years of experience in the industry, May brings a wealth of knowledge and insight to all her wine presentations.

Hiroko Shimbo. Chef-instructor, consulting chef, cookbook author and widely recognized expert in Japanese cuisine, Hiroko's most recent book, *Hiroko's American Kitchen*, won the 2013 IACP Cookbook Award in the American Category.

Adeena Sussman. Food writer, restaurant critic, cookbook author and restaurant consultant, Adeena counts her greatest accomplishment in "Pies for Prevention," a bake sale she and her sister initiated in honor of their mother to raise money women living with ovarian cancer, that to date has raised nearly \$100,000.

Susan Ungaro. President of The James Beard Foundation since 2006 and since 2010 spearheaded annual food conferences to foster dialogue and action to improve our Food System. Susan was named one of The DailyMeal's 50 Most Powerful People in Food in 2011 and 2012.

Marika Vida. Wine Director at the Ritz Carlton Central Park and the owner of Vida et Fils Wine Consulting. Marika is Certified Sommelier through the Court of Master Sommeliers, and Certified Specialist of Wine.

Diane Forley. Welcome back. A LDNY member in the past, and after a spell in California is back in New York. Diane now owns and runs *Flourish Baking Company* in Scarsdale – an experience based on vegetable products and dishes.

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