



*Les Dames d'Escoffier  
New York*

*For Immediate Release...*

### **Les Dames d'Escoffier New York Chapter Celebrates 2012 Scholarship Winners**

New York, NY July 13 – Les Dames d'Escoffier New York ([LDNY](#))—founding and largest chapter of [Les Dames d'Escoffier International](#)—a philanthropic organization whose members encompass women of achievement in the fine food, beverage and hospitality industry, awarded 21 scholarships totaling \$60,000, at a gala reception held July 12<sup>th</sup>.

More than 60 applications were received from a diverse range of talented women pursuing either culinary, nutrition, beverage or hospitality degrees. Applicants are required to submit an essay describing their achievements, career goals and merits for financial sponsorship. An applicant's resume, transcript, grade point average, along with professional and personal references, are considered as well.

Generous in-kind partnerships were contributed by leading New York culinary schools, including The Culinary Institute of America (CIA), The French Culinary Institute (ICC), The Institute of Culinary Education (ICE) and The International Wine Center. Membership- and corporate-sponsored scholarships were also awarded.

The evening reception—attended by LDNY members and sponsors, scholarship recipients and many other guests—was held at Astor Center. A local-inspired menu was created by Dame Mary Cleaver, owner of the Cleaver Company—New York City's preeminent green caterer—and pioneer of the sustainable food movement. Wines were contributed by Dame Ursula Massoud of Paumanok Vineyards, a premier vintner of Long Island's North Fork. Generous underwriting was provided by The Donald and Barbara Tober Foundation.

"What impressed me about this year's group of Les Dames d'Escoffier New York scholarship recipients was their entrepreneurial spirit. Whether having launched a product line, a blog, spearheaded a charitable initiatives or written articles, these are women who have demonstrated that they not only want to change their lives, they want to help change the lives of others through food and beverage and nutrition," said Melanie Young, President of Les Dames d'Escoffier New York.

Les Dames d'Escoffier New York is committed to education, advocacy, and philanthropy within the culinary arts and hospitality fields. These endeavors are primarily achieved through corporate, academic, private and membership funding of its awards scholarship program, along with hands-on mentoring of talented young women seeking to achieve leadership roles in their chosen careers. For more information, visit [www.ldny.org](http://www.ldny.org). Follow LDNY on Facebook/Les Dames d'Escoffier and Twitter@LesDamesNY.

2012 LDNY Scholarships were awarded to:

- Danielle Voigt of College Point, NY - Wendy Burrell Mintzer Scholarship, attending CUNY/City Tech
- Chanel Rojas of Ridgewood, NY - Cornerstone Communications Scholarship, attending CUNY/Kingsborough
- Doreece Dyer of Queens, NY - Olga Rigsby Scholarship, attending CUNY/Kingsborough
- Laura Dean of Hyde Park, NY - Abigail Kirsch Scholarship, attending CIA
- Alyssa Ciccotelli of Hillsborough, NJ - Margaret & Darby Perry Scholarship, attending CIA
- Megan Coombs of New York, NY - Judith Prince Scholarship, attending International Culinary Center/formerly French Culinary Institute
- Heidi Tickle of Brooklyn, NY - Sylvia Schur Scholarship, attending International Culinary Center/formerly French Culinary Institute
- Eliza Martin of New York, NY - Renee Marton Scholarship, attending ICE/Institute of Culinary Education
- Diana Caley of Brooklyn, NY - Founder's Scholarship, attending New York University
- Jaimi St John of New York, NY - LDNY Scholarship Food Studies, attending New York University
- Dana Mortell of New York, NY - LDNY Scholarship Nutrition, attending New York University

2012 Corporate Scholarship were awarded to:

- Rachel Hannon of New York, NY – Melitta USA, attending New York University
- La Vonda Williams of Brooklyn, NY - Society of Wine Educators, attending International Wine Center

2012 College Partnership Scholarships were awarded to:

**Culinary Institute of America - [www.ciachef.edu](http://www.ciachef.edu)**

- Noelle Gogg of Kingston, NY
- Miranda Hill of Salem, NJ

**The International Culinary Center/FCI - [www.intlculcenter.com](http://www.intlculcenter.com)**

- Alexandra Valencia of New York, NY
- Robeisy Sanchez of Brooklyn, NY

**Institute of Culinary Education - [www.iceculinary.com](http://www.iceculinary.com)**

- Shari Tanaka of New York, NY
- Jiaya (Jenny) Wang of New York, NY
- Josephine Chow of New York, NY

**International Wine Center -**

**[www.internationalwinecenter.com](http://www.internationalwinecenter.com)**

- Constance Chamberlain of Wallingford, CT



2012 LDNY Scholarship Chair Margaret Happel Perry (far left) with LDNY President Melanie Young and winners  
Photo courtesy of Cynthia Carris/Photo Solutions NYC

**Contact: Dame Ronnie Campbell [theburrellgroup ltd@msn.com](mailto:theburrellgroup ltd@msn.com) or Dame Melanie Young [ldnypresident@gmail.com](mailto:ldnypresident@gmail.com)**