

The Communiqué



Les Dames d'Escoffier®

INTERNATIONAL

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

February 17 2023

Dear Bay Area Dames,

We are feeling the love this Valentine's week for all the great work our chapter is undertaking for the year. Our board met this week and as always, we are working on refining and renewing our efforts to bring great programming and networking to our chapter. We are seeking someone with a legal background to help review our by-laws—a relatively straightforward endeavor—so please let me know if you or someone close to you can consult with us on this important topic.

There are several networking events upcoming, including our first Member Meet Up next week in Martinez at Roxx on Main, and many other ways to connect in the coming weeks. If something you read about in this communiqué or on our social feeds and website inspires you, please reach out to me directly. We are always looking to add more talent to the pool of women who are getting things done!

Finally, there are a few spots left in this well regarded [Edible London](#) event May 17-22, 2023. If you are feeling the itch to travel culinarily with fellow Dames from around the globe, you might consider it.

Warmly,

Pam Mazzola
Chapter President LDEI-SF

Events

Introducing Member Meetups, the San Francisco Chapter's new series of casual, no-host events around the Bay Area!

February 22, 2023: Join our inaugural Member Meetup, a casual gathering of fellow San Francisco-and-beyond Dames for a no-host lunch, drink, or dinner in locations rotating around the Bay Area, often affiliated with a fellow Dame. We ask members to register for free on our website for an estimated headcount.

We are launching with lunch at Dame Lesley Stiles' Roxx on Main restaurant in charming downtown Martinez in the East Bay next week on Wednesday, February 22 at noon.



Dame Stiles has worked in the food industry for decades catering, teaching, and developing school gardens and programs for growing and eating sustainably. Her most recent project is [Roxx on Main](#). Lesley's dream to bring locally sourced, organic, and sustainable ingredients to a restaurant has been realized. The food is fresh and delicious, and features a myriad of herbs from Lesley's own vast garden. It is a destination place in the historic downtown of Martinez. From locals to those looking for a fun place to go, Roxx on Main provides delicious food, great service, and even live music on the weekends. Check out this "[Check Please](#)" [video](#) featuring Roxx on Main.

Where: Roxx on Main, 627 Main St., Martinez, CA. To register, click [here](#). For questions, please contact event ambassador, Dame Lili Rollins at lilisfpfs@pacbell.net.

March 6, 2023: We will once again connect with two other women's groups, Dress for Success and the James Beard Foundation Women's Leadership Initiative, for a Hi Neighbor mixer at The Madrigal in San Francisco, on Monday March 6th, 5-8 PM. There are space limitations so we are focusing on Dames who live in the immediate vicinity of San Francisco, but if you have a strong desire to attend, please contact Dame [Kimberly Noelle Charles](#) at kcharles@charlescomm.com.

The Madrigal, 100 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA

Table Talks

[Our Chapter's entry](#) in the National chapter's month-long Table Talks series of virtual programs for the entire LDEI community will be held on Friday, March 10th, from 9-10:30 AM PST via Zoom (fee \$25). San Francisco-based food-trend expert and board member, Dame Kara Nielsen, will moderate an enlightening discussion on "New Frontiers in Meat & Dairy: Improving our Food System With Innovative Biotech."

This virtual panel aims to introduce you to the future in food, where visionary startups are producing exciting and delicious alternatives to conventional meat and dairy products using pioneering technologies in fermentation and cultivation.

The panel will feature women leaders of three California companies at the forefront of this emerging industry:

- Nicki Briggs, Vice President of Corporate Communications at [Perfect Day](#) (animal-free dairy)
- Joanna Bromley, Co-founder and EVP of Finance at [The Better Meat Co.](#) (mycoprotein meats)
- Amy Chen, Chief Executive Officer at [UPSIDE Foods](#) (cultivated chicken)

Register here: <https://lesdamessf.org/event-5137891>

If you know a qualified member of the media interested in a complimentary ticket, please contact Dame Kimberly Noelle Charles at kcharles@charlescomm.com.



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INTERNATIONAL

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

New Frontiers in Meat & Dairy: Improving our Food System With Innovative Biotech

Virtual panel hosted by Les Dames d'Escoffier International
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Friday, March 10, 9:00 to 10:30 am PST



Nicki Briggs
VP, Corporate
Communications
Perfect Day Foods



Joanna Bromley
Co-founder & EVP
Finance
The Better Meat Co.



Amy Chen
COO
UPSIDE Foods



Kara Nielsen
Food Trend Expe
Moderator

Fundraising

The Raffle is On! Our last raffle at the New Member Reception was so well received, we'd like to make it a regular occurrence. Please consider donating items for raffles at our upcoming in-person events to support our chapter and get the word out about your business, product, service, or latest undertaking. Books, gift cards for meals, wine, experiences and more make great raffle prizes! And of course, they'll be greatly appreciated by winning Dames. Please email Nancy Light, Events Committee Co-Chair, at nancyalight@gmail.com with details about the item you'd like to donate and to receive instructions for shipping. We're collecting items now for our Spring in-person events.

Membership

Be sure your membership profile is up to date. You can edit your contact info directly in the membership directory and be sure to take advantage of our national network which has a Member Profile section [here](#). If you haven't entered or updated your info, be sure to do so!

Les Dames d'Escoffier International is now accepting applications for the **2023 Legacy Awards**. The Legacy Awards, supported by The Julia Child Foundation for Gastronomy and the Culinary Arts, were established in 2009 by Les Dames d'Escoffier International with one goal in mind: to provide targeted mentorship opportunities for professional women in the food, beverage, and hospitality industries. Please note that this award is for women who are not members of Les Dames but have a minimum of four years' experience working in their industry.

The deadline for applications is March 17, 2023. For application criteria and more information about this award, please click [here](#).

LDEI is also seeking nominations for the **Woman of Purpose Award**. This award celebrates a visionary Dame who has made strides towards improving our food system. To qualify, a nominee must be an active member in good standing of Les Dames d'Escoffier International with a minimum of 3 years as a member.

The deadline for nominations for this award is also March 17, 2023. To learn more, or to nominate an outstanding Dame, follow [this link](#).

Also from our National organization: the **M.F.K. Fisher Prize** is now accepting entries through March 31, 2023. Open to both Dames and non-members, the M.F.K. Fisher Prize recognizes excellent works in any media format, including print and electronic (audio, broadcast, television, podcast, and video) that broaden the understanding of the intersection of food, beverage, and culture. The three top winners will receive cash prizes, and five additional works of distinction will be awarded.

For more information, visit the [LDEI website](#).

Scholarship

Les Dames SF is contemplating offering a Business Grant in the form of a cash stipend to help women business owners in the San Francisco Bay Area. We are looking for Dames to join an exploratory group to identify criteria and guidelines. If you are interested in joining this group, please email Emily Luchetti at emily@emilyluchetti.com.

Member News

Dames in the news...congratulations to our membership on some recent kudos in the press!

Dame Gayle Pirie of Foreign Cinema <https://www.7x7.com/10-essential-san-francisco-restaurants-2659276273.html>

Dame Denise St. Onge of Sorella

<https://www.7x7.com/sorella-sf-chef-denise-st-onges-2659329712.html>

Dame Beth Lee's The Essential Jewish Baking Cookbook was featured in Food Network's "30 Essential Jewish-Authored Cookbooks." Thanks to PR maven, Dame Jodie Chase, for her role in accomplishing this. We love to see Dames working together to Get Things Done!

<https://www.foodnetwork.com/how-to/packages/shopping/essential-jewish-cookbooks>

You may purchase your very own copy on [Amazon](#).

Dame Danielle Fiala was featured on an episode of the Swirl Suite podcast, as part of their month-long Black Food Series. New episodes are posted every week, and you can listen to the Swirl Suite anywhere you normally find your podcasts. Thanks to Dame Maryam Ahmed for making the connection!

<https://www.swirlsuite.com/news>

Dame Emily Luchetti had a poem published in Kitchen Work's current issue, Citrus X Meyeri

<https://www.kitchenwork.com/current-issue> Brava!

This week's Meet a Member series featured Dame Dawn Agnew. Some of you may recognize her as the fabulous host of our New Member Reception last month.

Dawn is the Hospitality Director of Eco Terreno Wines and Vineyards. To read her full profile, visit our Instagram page: @lesdamessf.



If you're not familiar with how to access our National Quarterly, it is on the ldei.org website and available archivally in addition to print. The current issue is [here](#). Upcoming due dates for 2023 are:

Summer 2023: May 01, 2023

Fall 2023: August 01, 2023

For any updates on Membership Milestones and Chapter Programs for the LDEI Quarterly, so please contact Dame Jodie Chase at jodie@chase-ink.com. She will submit it to National if you make the deadline!



We welcome you to submit any items for our biweekly communiqué to Communications Committee Chair Kimberly Noelle Charles at kcharles@charlescomm.com or committee member Danielle Fiala at daniellesfiala@gmail.com by 12 pm on Wednesdays for biweekly publication on Fridays. Please consider the categories of Events, Announcements, or Opportunities for Networking and Volunteering. Also, note that it is rare we would publicize fundraising events outside our own needs, but if a major, national, or significant event is happening with several Bay Area Dames, we want to know about it!