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Les Dames d'Escoffier
INTERNATIONAL

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Les Dames d'Escoffier Hosts “Festive Flavors & Gatherings” Online Event
Women leaders in food, drink, and hospitality share expert hosting tips and seasonal inspiration on November 11

New York, NY (November 7, 2025) — [Les Dames d'Escoffier International](#) (LDEI), the premier global network of women leaders in food, beverage, and hospitality, invites the public to join **“Festive Flavors & Gatherings,”** a live online celebration of holiday inspiration on **Tuesday, November 11, from 12–1:30 p.m. ET via Zoom.**

This joy-filled, interactive session will bring together Dames from around the world, from London to New Orleans, to share their most cherished tips for creating warm, memorable holiday gatherings. Attendees will discover smart entertaining strategies, creative décor ideas, and inspiring menu suggestions, all designed to help hosts celebrate with ease and elegance.

In partnership with Tito's Handmade Vodka, the event will also feature exclusive new cocktail recipes to toast the season in true Dame style.

“The best celebrations come from connection, generosity, and joy



around the table,” said Dame Laura Briscoe (Arizona Chapter). “Whether you’re hosting an intimate dinner or a large family feast, thoughtful preparation and heartfelt details make all the difference.”

Featured speakers include:

- Judith Baigent-King (Arizona Chapter)
- Lisa Blount (New Orleans Chapter)
- Chef Laura Briscoe (Arizona Chapter)
- Mindy Crostado (Portland Chapter)
- Clare Donovan (London Chapter)
- Kathy G. Mezrano (Birmingham Chapter)
- Lisa Gennawey (Boston Chapter)
- Julie Hettiger (North Carolina Chapter)
- Cary Kelly (Washington DC Regional Chapter)
- Francine Kowalsky (New York Chapter)
- Leeann Lavin (New York Chapter)
- Elisabeth Luard (London Chapter)
- Deborah Mintcheff (New York Chapter)
- Nancy Scanlon, PhD CHE (South Florida Chapter)

“This event captures the spirit of LDEI, the sharing of knowledge, joy, and hospitality that connects us beyond borders,” said LDEI President Stephanie Jaeger. “It’s a celebration of women who inspire and who gather people around food, friendship, and purpose.”

From make-ahead desserts like Pumpkin Panna Cotta with salted caramel sauce to creative touches such as handcrafted place cards and personalized tablescapes, each Dame brings her own regional flair and professional expertise. Together, their insights promise to inspire a season filled with flavor, creativity, and connection.

The Festive Flavors & Gatherings event is complimentary for LDEI members and \$20 for non-members. Donations supporting LDEI’s philanthropic programs are welcome.

Event Details:

Date: Tuesday, November 11, 2025

Time: 12–1:30 p.m. Eastern Time

Location: Online via Zoom

Registration [HERE](#).

For more information about Les Dames d'Escoffier International and upcoming LDEI Live Online sessions, visit www.ldeiliveonline.com.

About Les Dames d'Escoffier International

LDEI is an international organization of women leaders who create a supportive culture in their communities to achieve excellence in the fields of food, beverage, and hospitality. The organization's 2,600 members in 40 chapters in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom and Italy provide leadership, educational opportunities, and philanthropy. Since its founding in 1985, LDEI chapters have raised and donated more than \$10 million to educational, community non-profits, and philanthropic organizations. For more information, visit www.ldei.org and follow LDEI on Instagram @lesdamesintl and Facebook @LDEIdamesdescoffier.