



Les Dames d'Escoffier

INTERNATIONAL

Austin Chapter

LES DAMES D'ESCOFFIER OF AUSTIN ANNOUNCES 2020-2021 BOARD
AND NEW MEMBERS

AUSTIN, TX, September 28, 2020 – The Austin chapter of [Les Dames d'Escoffier](#), an international culinary leadership organization of women, has named its 2020-2021 board and added 23 new members representing the fields of food, fine beverage and hospitality.

The new board includes President Stacy Franklin, Franklin Barbecue; 1st Vice President Tabatha Stephens, Nourish; 2nd Vice President Lorena Legarreta, Dish'n Dames; Treasurer Sarah Heard, Foreign & Domestic and Commerce Café; and Secretary Nancy Marr, Central Market. Go [here](#) for a complete list of board members and committee chairs.

The new 2020 members include:

- LeighAnn Bakunas, YETI
- Cara Bertone, Folio Fine Wine Partners
- Matti Bills, Three Six General
- Cristin 'Moxy' Castro, Commonwealth Beverage & Brand LLC
- Amanda Darby, East Austin Culinary Studio
- Jessica Morrow Halich, Fancy Fluff & The Churro Burro
- Brooke Hester, C.L. Butaud Wines
- Elizabeth Hyman, Kome Group
- Sawyer Lewis, LeRoy and Lewis BBQ
- De Juana Lozada, Soul Popped Gourmet Popcorn
- Sarah McIntosh, épicerie café & grocery
- Veronica Meewes, freelance writer, Wonder Women of Wine, APT 115
- Emily O'Connor, Juliet Italian Kitchen
- Julia Poplawsky, Central Texas Meat Collective
- Hema Reddy, Crafty Counter
- Jen Rodriguez, 3 small plates LLC
- Alyce Shields, Dai Due

- Aimy Steadman, Future Proof Brands LLC
- Stephanie Swannack, Whole Foods Market
- Rusti Tisdale, US Foods
- Victoria Villarreal, freelance communications consultant
- Keesha Waits, Cleverly
- Katherine Wallace, Whole Foods Market

“Despite the pandemic, the Les Dames Austin chapter has continued to host programs, meet its philanthropic goals, award scholarships, and now, expand our membership with these 23 talented women from our culinary community,” says Stacy Franklin, president of the Austin chapter and owner of Franklin Barbecue. “Representing one of the hardest hit communities impacted by the pandemic, Les Dames is working diligently to provide resources and help for our members while also serving the greater Austin community.”

The Austin Chapter of Les Dames d’Escoffier hosts education, mentoring and networking [events](#) for both members and non-member and supports local [philanthropic initiatives](#) such as twice-a-week food runs, Posada Esperanza, Green Corn Project, and its annual holiday dinner for the homeless. To date, the group has awarded \$120,000 in scholarships and continuing education stipends.

For more information about the Austin chapter of Les Dames d’Escoffier, go to <http://Ideiaustin.org/>. Follow us on [Facebook](#) (Ideiaustin) and Instagram (@austindames).