

LES DAMES D'ESCOFFIER OF AUSTIN HOSTS "YOU GRILL GIRL!" ON THURSDAY, APRIL 28

Annual Grilling Benefit and Silent Auction Provides Scholarships and Grants for Local Women in Culinary and Hospitality Professions

AUSTIN, TX (APRIL 18, 2022) – Les Dames d'Escoffier of Austin is proud to bring back "You Grill Girl!," Austin's first event featuring women chefs and grilling masters, on Thursday, April 28 at Franklin Barbecue. First held in 2019 but then on hold during the pandemic, the fundraiser raises money for scholarships and grants for Austin women in the culinary, wine, food artisans and hospitality professions. To date, the Austin Dames chapter has awarded \$217,000 in scholarships.

"You Grill Girl!" will feature smoked and grilled dishes by some of Austin's most acclaimed female chefs along with raffles and a silent auction featuring an autographed directors chair from Julia Child, a private film screening at Violet Crown, a Franklin BBQ pit, a stay at Cactus Moon Lodge, large format food photography prints from Mackenzie Smith, Weige Knives, and many others.

Participating chefs include Amie Brown, Megan Nesland and Sarah Petmecky (Franklin BBQ), Jess Maher and Monique Santua (Lenoir), Sarah Heard and Bianca Frasier (Foreign & Domestic), Sarah McIntosh and Chloe Kennedy (Epicerie), Janie Ramirez (Dai Due), Cheryl Drummond (Torchy's Tacos), Abby Love (Abby Jane Bakeshop), Sonya Cote (Eden East, Hillside Farmacy), Kate Joiner (Hestia), Matti Bills (Three Six General), Sawyer Lewis and Lindsey LeRoy (LeRoy and Lewis), Meredith Shaffer and Samantha Anderson (Camp Lucy), Amanda Turner (Olamaie), and Laura Sawicki.

"Austin has a strong collective of women working in food and beverage, and it's in large part to the support they receive from our community," said Stacy Franklin, president of Les Dames d'Escoffier Austin. "This event is a celebration of those women and of the ones who come after us. Les Dames d'Escoffier Austin is proud to raise money for scholarships and grants to keep propelling our industry forward."

Held in the parking lot of Franklin Barbecue, 900 East 11th Street, from 7 p.m. – 10 p.m., all proceeds from ticket sales, raffles, silent auction, and sponsorships will benefit the scholarship program.

Tickets are \$85 each for General Admission. VIP tickets are sold out. Ticket link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/you-grill-girl-tickets-263674506547>

A few of the planned dishes from this year's chefs include nilgai cervelat sausage with thorny mustard and swiss sourdough, pork with sunchoke and fermented ramps, grilled catfish yakitori with grits and crawfish tare, lamb belly huraches, arroz con coco with pistachio and grilled carrots glazed with jaggery milk jam, and a smoked orange chicken taco with scallion pancake and tomatillo aioli.

You Grill Girl!'s presenting sponsors are Texas Beef Council, Whim Hospitality, Torchy's Tacos, YETI, Tito's and Patron.

Keep up with the Les Dames d'Escoffier Austin Chapter on Instagram [@austindames](#).

For [images of chefs, silent auction items, and graphics, see here](#).

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ABOUT LES DAMES D'ESCOFFIER: Les Dames d'Escoffier International is a philanthropic society consisting of 2,500 professional women leaders in the fields of food, fine beverage, and hospitality from 43 chapters across the globe. We are dedicated to education and volunteering. We educate on culinary excellence and entrepreneurship. We serve our communities through various philanthropic efforts and programs. The Austin Chapter consists of 110 members from all areas of the culinary community. Since 2003, we have given \$217,000 in scholarships and culinary stipends to students and professionals seeking further education. We envision a world where all people appreciate and value the work and contribution of women in our industry, where women support women, and where communities create meaningful impact through serving our community. Les Dames Austin is a local chapter of the nonprofit Les Dames d'Escoffier International (LDEI). For more information about Les Dames d'Escoffier of Austin, please visit <https://www.ldeiaustin.org/>.