



Les Dames d'Escoffier
INTERNATIONAL



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gomez-Laurens Named President of Les Dames d'Escoffier International

LOUISVILLE, KY (Nov. 11, 2015) – On Saturday, Oct. 31, before an audience of 350 in Charleston, S.C., **Maria Gomez-Laurens**, Manager of Global Accounts for HelmsBriscoe, was named **President of Les Dames d'Escoffier International (LDEI)**.

LDEI includes 2,100 women leaders in a variety of professions within food, beverage, and hospitality industries who share a vision to improve lives through education and philanthropy.

Gomez-Laurens follows Lori Willis (St. Louis) who will serve as past president on the board. Gomez-Laurens will guide the organization over the next year and assist in the development of the 2016 conference slated for Oct. 27-30 in Washington, D.C.

Prior to her appointment as president, Gomez-Laurens, served on the LDEI board contributing expertise in the areas of partner development and coordination of conference and board logistics.

Gomez-Laurens brings to the office more than 23 years of experience in the hospitality industry. In her role as Manager of Global Accounts for HelmsBriscoe, she manages accounts in the United States, Europe, and Latin America; where she is actively involved in the development of Destination Partnerships. She is a frequent guest speaker on Market Hospitality Trends, Best Practices, and Forecasting of the U.S. Market Development in Latin America.

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***LDEI** is an international organization of women leaders who create a supportive culture in their communities to achieve excellence in the food, beverage, and hospitality professions. To do this, over 2,100 members in 36 chapters worldwide provide leadership, educational opportunities and host philanthropic events within their communities. For more information, visit LDEI.org or on [Facebook at Les Dames d'Escoffier Int'l](#).*