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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Hayley Matson-Mathes named President of Les Dames d'Escoffier International**

NEWPORT BEACH, CA (October 28, 2017)-On Saturday, October 28, at their Conference Gala in Newport Beach, California. Hayley Matson-Mathes, the Executive Director of the nonprofit Hawaii Culinary Education Foundation of Honolulu Hawaii, was named President of Les Dames d'Escoffier International.

Matson-Mathes follows Stacy Zeigler, who will serve as past president on the board. Matson-Mathes will guide the organization over the next year and her mission is to guide the members and chapters to ever increasing communications and connectedness. She will assist in the development of the 2018 conference slated for Oct. 11-14, in Seattle, Washington.

Prior to her appointment as president, Matson-Mathes served as the President of the Hawaii LDEI Chapter and on the LDEI Board, most recently as 1st Vice President, where she brought her expertise to the areas of partner development and coordination of conference and board logistics.

Matson-Mathes has dedicated her professional career to culinary education. Her creative development of partnerships among working chef-mentors, culinary students and their educators, has expanded advanced culinary knowledge beyond the classroom.

She delivered consumer education for the Cooperative Extension Service and developed marketing promotions for 400 specialty food companies at the Kansas Department of Agriculture. In her role at the Department of

Agriculture, she created specialty food promotions with Harrod's, Fortnum and Mason of London as well as Bloomingdale's in Chicago and New York City. In addition, Matson-Mathes was selected to serve on the retail advisory panel of the American Heart Association.

Hayley Matson-Mathes and husband Michael have made Honolulu, Hawaii their home for the past 17 years. She is the co-owner of a fourth-generation Kansas family farm and ranch.

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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 2,300 members in 40 chapters worldwide provide leadership, educational opportunities and host philanthropic events within their communities. For more information, visit [LDEI.org](http://LDEI.org) or on [Facebook at Les Dames d'Escoffier Int'l](#).*