

**Atlanta Les Dames d' Escoffier International Announces "Afternoon in the Country" at Serenbe
Annual Fundraiser will be Sunday, November 8, 2009; Ticket Sales Begin with a Summer Special**

Media Contact:
Tucker Berta
tucker@serenbe.com
678.850.3204

ATLANTA, GA (6.19.09)—The Atlanta Chapter of Les Dames d'Escoffier International, a worldwide society of women in the culinary, beverage, and hospitality industries, will host its ninth annual *Afternoon in the Country* at Serenbe on Sunday, November 8, 2009 at 1 p.m. The event is a showcase for the area's most talented chefs and their creative prowess, along with an array of fine wines, beers and Georgia's organic harvest. Proceeds benefit Georgia's organic farming community and Atlanta's LDEI scholarship program for women in the culinary, beverage and hospitality arts.

More than 35 chefs from Atlanta's best restaurants and select retailers will be set up in a tasting format alongside 20-plus fine wine and premium micro-brews under festive big-top tents. The 2008 event featured fine establishments including The Hil, The Farmhouse, Shaun's, Rathbun's, Craft, Repast, Sotto Sotto, Park 75 at the Four Seasons, SweetWater Brewery, Bella Cucina Artful Food, Via Elisa Fresh Pasta and many more. Guests also enjoy meeting Georgia's dedicated organic farmers and purchasing from their bountiful harvest.

Other highlights include: live music by renowned Bluegrass band, DriveTrain, a one-of-a-kind cake raffle featuring sweets from Atlanta's best pastry chefs, hayrides, unique wares from artisan and select retailers and a silent auction offering exclusive dining and travel packages, exclusive merchandise and original art by some of the Southeast's most prominent artists. New this year is a dynamic live auction featuring unique dining and entertainment experiences (including a private concert with renowned singer Francine Reed).

Regular ticket price is \$95 per person. Children under 12 may attend free of charge. Children 12 to 20 are \$35 each. Tickets are now available for purchase securely online at www.ldeiatlanta.org.

Through August 9th, Atlanta LDEI is offering a special advance ticket purchase price of 2 for \$150. Visit www.ldeiatlanta.org to purchase.

Numerous sponsorship opportunities are available for this event. Please contact Sue Anne Morgan at 404.329.8426 or sueanne@idealand.org for event details and sponsorship information.

Les Dames d'Escoffier International is dedicated to creating a supportive culture in the community, fostering excellence and promoting the achievement of women in culinary professions through educational and charitable activities. For additional information, please visit www.ldeiatlanta.org.

###