

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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On March 7-8th, (International Women's Day) in New York, Women Restaurants Owners Support a Remarkable Nonprofit's Scholarship Fund

(New York, NY) — On March 7-8, (Saturday and Sunday) New York women-owned restaurants and women chefs will celebrate International Women's Day, (Sunday March 8th), by recognizing a remarkable non-profit organization, the Women's Education Project (WEP). On these two days, owners and chefs encourage patrons to dine at these restaurants, where they may learn about WEP and make a contribution to its scholarship fund at the end of the meal (a donation slip will be added to the check presenter).

Patrons at New York restaurants, **Annisa, Counter, Dirt Candy (closed Sunday), Estancia, I Trulli, La Palapa, Suenos, and The Kitchen Club** will discover the achievements of WEP, a five year old organization which enables South Indian women from the poorest backgrounds to pursue college and careers. Instead of being street sweepers or domestic laborers, WEP alumna have become teachers, legal assistants, technicians and computer workers.

In forming the restaurant collaboration, founding Director Zoe Timms, asked "What better place than in New York women-owned restaurants to share the inspiring stories of these amazing women on Women's Day? Like the restaurant entrepreneurs, the students of WEP are remarkable."

Timms felt confident the restaurant owners, risk-takers themselves, would relate to the challenges and optimism of the WEP students and asked them to join the cause. Anita Lo, owner of Annisa and Iron Chef winner, understood immediately. "My mother was integral to my success as both a chef and business owner. One of the first female doctors in the country, she would come home after a 12-15 hour workday and put 5-6 delicious dishes on the table for dinner. Her intrepid attitude, her hard work ethic and love of food, transferred to me, were the foundation of my career. I support WEP so that others may have the tools for success that I have been so lucky to have." said Lo.

At the end of the evening, patron's at Annisa and other participating restaurants will be invited to contribute to the WEP scholarship fund. "Whether or not you are the one paying the check, we invite everyone to contribute," said Timms "There is no better way to commemorate this important day or to make an impact."

Photos of Women's Education Project and restaurant's press photos are available upon request.

For Reservations, please contact:

Annisa , Proprietor/Chef, Annita Lo: www.annisarestaurant.com	212.741.6699
Counter , Proprietor, Deborah Gavito: www.counternyc.com	212.982.5870
Dirt Candy, (closed Sunday) , Proprietor, Amanda Cohen: www.dirtcandynyc.com	212.228.7732
Estancia 460 , Proprietor, Stacey Sosa: http://estancia460.wordpress.com	212.431.5093
I Trulli , Chef, Patti Jackson: www.itrulli.com	212.481.7372
La Palapa , Proprietor, Margaritte Malfy, Barbara Sibley: www.lapalapa.com	212.777.2537/212.243.6870
Suenos , Chef, Sue Torres: www.suenosnyc.com	212.243.1333
The Kitchen Club , Proprietor, Marja Sampson www.thekitchenclub.com	212.274.0025

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