

BEHIND THE CURTAIN

WITH THE TUTS LEADING LADIES

THE NEW YEAR KICKOFF EDITION



1. Welcome note from our Leading Ladies Chair — *Becky McAndrews*
2. Save the Date: *Vine & Dine (Feb 16, 2017)*
3. Featured Leading Ladies —
Christine Sofka & Melissa Kalmans
3. Celebrating the Past & Present — *El Real Happy Hour & Holiday Party Recap*
4. Get Involved: *Upcoming Opportunities*



Cheers!

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A LETTER FROM *the desk of* BECKY MCANDREWS



Happy New Year! I hope your 2017 is off to a fabulous start. Our Leading Ladies have been busy, busy, busy - donating books, attending socials and volunteering on the Vine & Dine and Gala auction committees. So many exciting things going on for our Leading Ladies at TUTS. I hope each of you can participate, in your own way, to make 2017 another fabulous year for Leading Ladies.

Speaking of participating - I hope some of you will be able to help out with the setup and silent auction for Vine & Dine. We really need people during the daytime shifts to help with getting the venue and silent auction set up and we need help with getting silent auction items. The Signup Genius links are in this newsletter if you missed them in your email.

Another area we could use help is in the planning of our annual luncheon which will be in early May. We need a chairperson- someone that would love to make this event spectacular and also a committee to help with the planning. Please let me know if you are interested in working on the luncheon.

As always, if you have ideas or suggestions for our group please reach out to me at bdm1215@aol.com. I would love to hear from each of you on your vision for our coming year.

Best Regards,
Becky

A LEADING LADIES PRODUCTION



TUTS LEADING LADIES CAST

Becky McAndrews.....	Chair
Leticia Jaroski.....	Chair Elect
Michelle Duckett-Hedgebeth.....	Events Coordinator
Elizabeth DeFranco.....	Events Coordinator
Christine Sofka.....	Volunteer Coordinator
Lisa Jakel	Auction Coordinator
Melissa Kalmans.....	Auction Coordinator
Abimbola Farinde	Membership Coordinator
Debbie Youens.....	Membership Coordinator
Sanvita Sample	Communications Coordinator



*Newsletter created by Sanvita Sample,
Leading Ladies Communication Coordinator*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the Date: Vine & Dine —Feb 16th



TUTS presents—Vine & Dine 2017! The theme for this year is Around the World: A celebration of Musical Theatre through international food & wine. The goal is to raise funds for TUTS' Humphreys School of Musical Theatre (HSMT). The location is Silver Street Studios, 2000 Edwards Street, 77007.

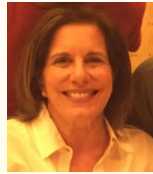
There will be 10 food stations with a delectable treat from an amazing local chef and a wine pairing to go along with it. To make the evening sweeter, there will also be desserts from around the world along with entertainment from the HSMT students throughout the evening. Tables start at \$3,000 and individual tickets start at \$150.

Don't miss this opportunity to support TUTS, HSMT and enjoy music and food from around the world!



FEATURED LEADING LADIES

SPOTLIGHT ON: MELISSA KALMANS



1. HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN WITH THE LEADING LADIES?

This is my second year as a Leading Lady.

2. WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR FAVORITE SHOW AT TUTS?

My favorite TUTS show so far is A Christmas Story, it was a fun family show (and my kid was in it).

3. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF LEADING LADIES?

Leading Ladies provides the perfect mix of social & community service for a cause that I can really get behind, bringing theater to all.

4. YOU ARE ON THE TUTS VINE & DINE COMMITTEE TO HELP ORGANIZE THE EVENT. WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE BEST REASON SOMEONE SHOULD ATTEND VINE & DINE?

The best reason to attend Vine & Dine is because it is an affordable, fun and tasty way to give to a very worthwhile cause - The Humphrey School of Musical Theatre. It helps kids that want to better their musical theater skills and also brings musical theater to our schools.



SPOTLIGHT ON: CHRISTINE SOFKA



1. HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH TUTS & LEADING LADIES?

I am in my second year with Leading Ladies and this is my first year as Volunteer Coordinator.

2. WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR FAVORITE SHOW AT TUTS?

This is such a tough question. Paul, my husband, and I both loved "Into the Woods." We're still singing the music!

3. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF LEADING LADIES?

I absolutely love the women I've met. Everyone is so fun to be around. They're from all walks of life and we have a desire to make things better around us. A very close second is the TUTS staff. They're amazing!

4. YOU ARE ON THE TUTS VINE & DINE COMMITTEE TO HELP ORGANIZE THE EVENT. WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE BEST REASON SOMEONE SHOULD ATTEND VINE & DINE?

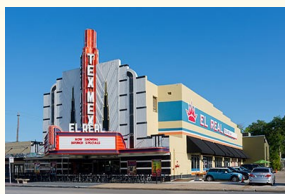
The FOOD!! Seriously. I know the entertainment will be great, but the food is going to be incredible. It's going to be an event not to be missed!

EL REAL HAPPY HOUR RECAP



On January 10th, the Leading Ladies gathered for a fun “Tequila Tuesday” happy hour kicking off the New Year while enjoying food, drinks and companionship at El Real Tex-Mex Café! Becky and Christine provided the announcements for the evening, highlighting the Vine & Dine event in February.

All joined in to participate in a fun icebreaker, where celebrity names were placed on everyone’s backs and Leading Ladies shared clues with a partner to discover “Who Am I.” The evening was filled with laughter and companionship, so we look forward to seeing you at the next Leading Ladies Social! - *Guest Contributor: Elizabeth DeFranco*





RECAP: LEADING LADIES

HOLIDAY PARTY



Thanks to our hosts, Ed & Leticia Jaroski, for gracious holding the Leading Ladies 2016 Holiday Party in their beautiful home. The festivities kicked off with some delicious bites from Phoenicia Specialty Foods and a raffle drawing for some fabulous TUTS themed prizes. In case you missed it, we hope you can attend the festivities next year!



Leading Ladies Luncheon Chair and Committee Needed!



Ladies, mark your calendars! The Leading Ladies Luncheon is coming up on Thursday, May 4th at The Hobby Center. This year we have some tricks up our sleeve and plan to make this our biggest and best luncheon to date!

In order to make this event a huge success, **we need you to join us as a Chair / Co-Chair or as a member of our Luncheon Committee.** Here are the requirements for each role below:

Chair (Need 1 Chair or 2 Co-Chairs)

- Purchase a table for the event
- Provide TUTS with names and contact info for a Host Committee
- Attend the Luncheon and all Luncheon-related events
- Attend all Luncheon Committee planning meetings
- Work with TUTS staff and assist in the Luncheon logistics decision-making process
- Assist with collecting items for the silent auction
- Promote this event to your family and friends

Luncheon Committee members

- Purchase an individual ticket and attend the Luncheon
- Attend all Luncheon Committee planning meetings
- Work with TUTS staff and brainstorm on event logistics
- Assist with collecting items for the silent auction
- Promote this event to your family and friends

*Please contact Kelly Nicholls at kelly@tuts.com or [713.558.2651](tel:713.558.2651)
by February 1 if you are interested in one of these roles.*

Planning starts soon, so join today!

GET INVOLVED!



Volunteer Opportunities

- ◆ Book Delivery 1/18—1/31
- ◆ Vine & Dine, 2/16
 - 1) Sign up to donate auction items at Vine & Dine:
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d48a9ad28a1fa7-donate2>
 - 2) Sign up to help at the event: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d48a9ad28a1fa7-vine>
- ◆ Founder's Club Decorations, 2/24
- ◆ HSMT/ River Showcase, 3/22
- ◆ Student Matinees, 3/21—3/24
- ◆ TUTS Gala, 3/24—3/25

*For sign up information or other questions, please contact
Christine Sofka (csofkamk@gmail.com)*

#GOSOCIAL



1. Come to LL Events and take pictures
2. Log on to Facebook, post pictures and tag the Leading Ladies (@tutsleadingladies)
3. Post your pictures and add the #hashtags of your choice



#EDUCATION

#TUTSLEADINGLADIES

#SUPPORTTUTS

#SQUADGOALS



Questions/ Comments? Please contact
Kelly Nicholls (Kelly@tuts.com)