



CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

December 2018



Message From The President

The turkey has been eaten, along with a few cans of cranberry jelly (my personal favorite) and the holidays are on the horizon. This is the time of year when we reflect on the things that are most important to us – our family and friends to fill our warm home with happiness.



I hope you take this time to consider the things that you have in your life and help those less fortunate. The MPI D/FW leadership team has given you a few opportunities to achieve this goal by donating to a worthy veteran family through Santa Boots and the hungry through GRACE Food Pantry. I look forward to seeing all of you as we wrap the presents we have gathered for Santa Boots on Thursday, December 6th from 5–8 pm. During our December event, we will be collecting food for GRACE Food Pantry and I challenge our members to fill that pantry for the rest of 2019.

As your Chapter President, I am especially thankful for all of you – our members. I am thankful for the friendships I have made, the experience I have gained from speaking with event professionals who have mentored me, the education I have received through local and MPI Global events, and the increased business I have received through networking with corporate partners. I am a relatively new member of the MPI D/FW Chapter, but I know that the experiences I have encountered in my six short years as a member have been an invaluable addition to my current position in the industry.

As we head into the New Year, take time to evaluate your current position in your work and personal life. Have you hit the pinnacle you strived to achieve when you started out? Will you be looking for a new role this year? Fighting for a promotion? Finding a work/life balance? Purchasing a new home? Adding to your family? Whatever your goals are for 2019, I invite you to find a mentor or a support system through the MPI D/FW Chapter. Maybe together, we will Ignite Something!

Paige Mejia
MPI D/FW President

Eat, Meet and be MERRY!

Join us December 13th

10:00am – 11:00am | Education “Visioneering the Future of the Meeting Industry”

by Mark Cooper, IACC CEO

11:00am – 11:30am | New MPI Member Orientation

11:30am – 1:00pm | US Copper Skillet Cook-Off Competition and Networking Lunch



It’s the MOST wonderful time of year and we are excited to celebrate! MPI DFW and IACC have teamed up to IGNITE something special for our December event. Grab your colleagues, clients, and friends and join us for a spectacular holiday fun-filled networking event. Get insight into the latest trends in food, layout, and technology, spread some good cheer and enjoy fantastic food with our very own Iron Chef-like competition where chefs from IACC will go head-to-head for a top prize! We hope to see you there, with bells on!

Register [here!](#)

December CSR: Santa Boots for a Local Veteran

BOOT CAMPAIGN

Each year, veteran and active duty families are nominated by the Boot Campaign network to receive Santa Boots gift packages! Santa Boots boxes are a SURPRISE, delivered just days before Christmas, and feature a heartfelt note of gratitude from Boot Campaign. Read more [here](#).

We are supporting two families this year! We've put together a **PRIVATE MPI D/FW WRAPPING PARTY** Dec 6th from 5-8pm at Steven Foster's warehouse. Click [here](#) for directions, it's located at 1061 Texan Trail, Suite #500, Grapevine, TX. 76051. Otherwise, you can also bring your gift to the Dec. 13th Holiday Networking event or you can call Elizabeth at 214-477-1702 for pick up.

The Wilson Family

	Clothes	Shoes	Hobbies
Sabrina	3X	9.5	Reading, arts & Crafts
Kristen	2X	8.5	Horses/unicorns, arts crafts, jewelry

The Rodriguez Family

	Clothes	Shoes	Hobbies
Raymond	XL	9	Hunting & Dallas Cowboys NFL
Feliciana	L	8	Sports Mom to basketball, volleyball and soccer
Michael	YXL 16-18	6	Nerf toys, Legos
Keilani	adult small	5	Volleyball, VS Pink Collection
Raymond	adult medium	10	Dallas Cowboys, mens cologne

MPI D/FW Ambassadors



Are you a current MPI D/FW member? Do you enjoy meeting new people?

[Then sign-up now to become an Ambassador for our New Members!](#)

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN-UP](#)

Glorious F&B Trends for 2019

By: Erin Lucia, Director of Catering, Embassy Suites by Hilton Dallas Park Central Area
MPI D/FW Immediate Past President



Strategic event design has lifted F&B to its rightful place front and center as moments are expressed through food. In my career of over two decades overseeing F&B for various meetings and events, I have seen a shift towards healthier eating options as attendees are focused on fitness and nutrition. More and more guests want to know how their food is made and where it comes from, but there are other exciting trends emerging this year.

Experiential catering stations such as pasta station where guests watch chef form noodles with a pasta machine. Attendees interact with the chef as they work with various pastas such as raw semolina mix, to form and cook the noodle, and mix it in a cheese bowl before serving. Other interactive stations that we bring to events are pulled mozzarella station and different desert stations.

At Embassy Suites by Hilton Dallas Park Central we are increasingly making classic, nostalgic dishes with a modern twist, such as classic vegetable crudité served on ice, and with a not-so-classic sunflower seed hummus and olive oil dip. [Read more.](#)



Authentic Leadership

By: Tuula Westlake, MPI D/FW Incoming President

MPI DFW members are authentic and passionate leaders.



Exponential speed of change driven by technology, rapidly changing customer behaviors and emerging global market conditions continues to change the way we work. Evolving corporate business models challenge us to look

backwards learning from “what once was” while simultaneously looking forward and imagining “what will be” – and this balancing act requires a new leadership approach.

Competence, knowledge and technical skills are now minimal requirements to step into a leadership role. Advanced interpersonal skills with foresight and motivation create a truly thriving and inspired work environment. Leaders help their teams imagine new possibilities they would not otherwise see. By creating equal access to information and allowing questions today’s leaders bring transparency to their organizations. They lead by thought, product and innovation. These leaders are collaborative, transparent, open and vulnerable.

Good leaders invest themselves in the performance of others by removing obstacles and setting others for success. Great leaders deliver on a mission and gain commitment to perform by caring about the success of their team members individually and collectively. Great leaders acknowledge others not just as human resource, but by authentically showing “you matter, you are needed”. Click [here](#) to continue.

Join us for the January Chapter Experience: "State of the Industry"

Speaker: Michael Dominguez



January 24, 2019 11:15 AM - 1:30 PM

Omni Fort Worth Hotel

1300 Houston St., Fort Worth, Texas

Michael is BACK and better than ever! Gain valuable business insights on important issues facing our industry from a national and global perspective. A fantastic way to start the New Year off! This is one not to miss and will sell out so be sure to join us in Fort Worth at the Omni Hotel. More information will be coming soon but reserve your spot today!

Register [here](#)!

GET INVOLVED! 2019 - 2020 Board of Directors



The time has come to begin the nominating process for the 2019-2020 Chapter Board of Directors. MPI D/FW Chapter’s continuing and future success depends on the quality of its leaders and is the responsibility of every chapter member. We hope you will consider giving your time, energy and talent to MPI D/FW by expressing an interest in becoming part of the Board of Directors! Click [here](#) for all available positions and [here](#) for the candidate interest form!

Deadline to submit interest forms is Jan 17, 2019.

Everyone Needs a



Seeking Mentors and Mentees

“Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember involve me and I learn”

~ Confucian Philosophe, Xunzi

We are seeking mentors and mentees to participate in our exciting Mentorship Program! Share your professional experience as a mentor or learn from experienced professionals as a mentee.

- Informal sessions at times and locations that fits your schedule.
- Customs matches of mentors with mentees based on areas of interest & career goals.
- Share your professional insights & experience, and provide guidance to aspiring and inspiring professionals.

The mentorship program is open to MPI D/FW members and now accepting applications for the 2018-2019 term.

For more information and program details contact Corina Balsells dirleadership@mpidfw.org

Need a Personal Career Coach?



Mentorship is an excellent way to develop your career. MPI D/FW offers a mentorship program to its members, to help them navigate the career ladder of success. The program is flexible; you and your mentor, will agree upon a meeting time that is mutually convenient for both of you. Join today and enjoy the career and business benefits of membership. Click [here](#) to learn more.



Welcome, New Members!

Elizabeth Chandler

Brian Hoover - ITS

Chelsea Del Viscio

Jamie Battaglia - J Event and Design

Norman Beck

Laura Breedon

Sarah Blackhall - Service Nation Inc.

Katie Ventrice - NASS

Joseph Derrig - PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Stephanie Evans - Dallas Sports Commission

Pam Garges

Karen Pensoneau - Success Group International

Robert Sanchez, CMP - Global Cynergies

Cameron Thompson - CDT Productions

Update Your Contact Information



Your MPI D/FW Chapter leadership team is working diligently to keep you up-to-date on chapter events such as training, luncheons, and leadership meetings. We use your MPI Global Profile to retrieve your contact information and build our chapter directory (scheduled for delivery in the fall), so make sure to record your changes. Updating your MPI Global profile is simple. Just log in at MPIweb.org and access your member profile to update your contact information and manage your email preferences.



Save The Date!

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events.

Dec 6 - MPI D/FW Wrapping Party

Dec. 13 - **Holiday Networking**

Event Partnership with IACC @
Hilton DFW Lakes

Jan. 24 - January Chapter Experience

Feb. 28 - MPI D/FW Emerging Leaders

[View full event calendar](#)



Members on the Move

Have you or someone you know recently made a job change? Please [let us know](#) so we can share the good news.

Host an MPI D/FW event

Interested in hosting a future MPI D/FW event? Reach out to Cassie Poss for more information.

cassieposs4514@gmail.com



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P: (972) 233-9107 x201

F: (972) 490-4219

chapadmin@mpidfw.org

Caitlin Watson, Chapter Administrator

MPI Dallas Fort Worth Chapter

14070 Proton Rd Ste 100

Lb9

Dallas, TX 75244-3601

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