

COMMANDER'S PALACE

Ti Adelaide Martin Co-Proprietor

BIOS



Restaurateur, entrepreneur, author and sought-after speaker Ti Adelaide Martin is an outspoken champion for true hospitality in business, for her city and for the many causes she devotes herself to.

Most recently Martin devoted herself to celebrating the 125th anniversary of Commander's Palace, along with her family members, by hosting The American Cuisine and Hospitality Symposium. This day-long discussion about the future of food and hospitality in America featured provocative sessions led by industry experts and thought leaders at the New Orleans Orpheum Theater. Restaurateurs, chefs, CEOs, food writers and students all found something inspiring from the day that was attended by more than 400 people and furthered a cause dear to Martin's heart: creating hospitality heroes.

From co-founder in the 90s of the New Orleans Proud to Call It Home campaign, to driving the force behind the new billion-dollar airport terminal as finance chair and 12-year member of the Aviation board, to being cofounder and chair of the board of NOCHI, a new 93,000 square-foot culinary and hospitality institute, Martin's energy appears boundless.

"I have many passions, but my truest love is for restaurants. I love restaurants. I love working in them, eating in them, talking about them, reading about them and writing about them," says Martin.

Martin credits her mother Ella Brennan with igniting that passion. A lifelong dream came true when Ti returned the favor by releasing a book with her mother Miss Ella of Commanders Palace: I don't want a restaurant where a jazz band can't come marching through. On the heels of the book, Oscar-nominated filmmaker Leslie Iwerks released the documentary, Ella Brennan: Commanding the Table.

The film tells the story of the birth of the modern American food movement and captures both women's philosophies on food, hospitality and business. The film is now available on Apple TV.

Co-proprietor of Commander's Palace since 1997 with her cousin Lally Brennan, Martin speaks with pride and excitement about the future. "We may hold the keys to Commander's, but the restaurant really belongs to New Orleans," she says.

In September 2018, Martin opened Picnic Provisions & Whiskey in Uptown New Orleans with partners Darryl Reginelli of Reginelli's Pizzeria and Executive Chef Tory McPhail of Commander's Palace and SoBou. A modern corner restaurant where you can just drop in or pick up your food to go and even order free delivery, Picnic has quickly become a neighborhood staple for craveable food, daily happy hour and a relaxed and fun atmosphere.

"At all of my restaurants, we try to live up to what people expect and want to be even better and to represent what the city is all about -- not just the food but the way of life, the soul, and the spirit that is New Orleans. Most of all we will not stand still; we will always evolve."

Select Awards and Honors

- Southern Living's The South's Best Restaurant (2017 - 2019)
- Named to The Power List by Nation's Restaurant News (2019)
- Restaurant of the Year Nola.com | The Times-Picayune (2018)
- James Beard Foundation Awards Who's Who of Food & Beverage in America (2018)
- Named Top Female Achiever by New Orleans magazine (2018)
- Named New Orleans CityBusiness Icon (2018)
- Food and Wine's 40 Most Important Restaurants (2018)
- Louisiana Restaurant Association's Restaurateur of the Year (2016)
- New Orleans City Business "Driving Force" of the New Orleans Business Scene (2015)
- New Orleans magazine's Restaurateur of the year (2012)
- City Business' Woman of the Year Award (2011)
- Culinary Institute of America Hall of Fame (inducted 2008)
- Nation's Restaurant News – 50 New Tastemakers (1999)

Civic Activity

- Co-founder, New Orleans Proud to Call It Home campaign
- Board Chair & Co-Founder, New Orleans Culinary & Hospitality Institute (NOCHI)
- Finance Chair and Board member, New Orleans Aviation Board
- Vice Chair and Board member, Idea Village
- Member, Tulane University President's Council and Business School Board
- Member, Board of Visitors, Xavier University of New Orleans

Books

- Commander's Kitchen (2001)
- In the Land of Cocktails: Recipes and Adventures from the Cocktail Chicks (2007)
- Commander's Wild Side (2008)
- Miss Ella of Commander's Palace (2016)

Select Television and Media Appearances

Bravo's "Top Chef," NBC's "Today," "The Martha Stewart Show," "The Rachel Maddow Show," NPR's "All Things Considered," Turner South Network's "Commander's Palace Off the Menu," Food Network's "Sara's Secrets," "My Country, My Kitchen," and "Into the Fire," CBS's "The Early Show," CNBC's "Squawk Box"

For more information, or to schedule an interview, please contact Ashley Miller at Wagstaff Media and Marketing: amiller@wagstaffmktg.com or 212.227.7575