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## Winter Section Meeting— January 29



Johnny's Café is an Omaha Classic, billed as Omaha's Original Steak House.

The upcoming winter meeting will be an exciting educational and social event, held on Thursday, January 29. The meeting will consist of a social hour, silent auction, dinner, and two speakers, and will be held at the historic Johnny's Café (27th & L) in Omaha.

We will be hosting our annual Silent Auction for student scholarships, with over 50 auction items generously donated! Last year's auction was an outstanding success, allowing IFT-A to award three \$500 scholarships to UNL students. We hope to match the proceeds this year and continue to provide scholarships to outstanding students dedicated to food science and IFT.

Two fantastic speakers have agreed to participate in the winter meeting; Drs. Timothy and Deanna Sellnow of the University of Kentucky. They are both highly esteemed and well-established in their fields, and will share a discussion of risk communication strategies in the time of crisis.

The evening's agenda is listed below:

- 5:00-6:30PM:** Cash bar, social, and silent auction
- 6:30:** Dinner Served
- 6:45-7:45:** Drs. Sellnow presentation
- 7:45:** Section update and silent auction wrap-up

### Entree Options Include\*

- 1.) 10 oz. Top Sirloin Steak
- 2.) 9 oz. Prime Rib
- 3.) Fresh Salmon

\*Vegetarian option also available, please email IFTAksarben@gmail.com for more info.

The cost to attend the meeting is IFT Members: \$30, Non-members: \$35, Student Members: \$15, Student non-members: \$20.

**RSVPs must be made by January 22 to reserve your seat and meal choice. For more information, and to RSVP, please click the appropriate link below:**

[PROFESSIONAL RSVP](#)

[STUDENT RSVP](#)

## Upcoming Events:

- **January 29 | Winter Section Meeting**  
Johnny's Café
- **January 31– March 7 | Scholarship Applications Open**
- **Now-January 28 | Call for Nominations**

## A Message from the Chair, Ryan Talley

As we head into the holiday season, the board of directors has been diligently planning the winter meeting. Among preparations, we have been gathering wonderful items for the silent auction, setting the menu, and arranging travel for our speakers. We are thrilled to be hosting the Sellnows and looking forward to what will be an informative and educational

talk. The meeting and social hour will be held in the same room at Johnny's Café in which a scene from the movie *About Schmidt* was filmed. From myself and everyone else on the board, we wish you a happy and safe holiday season, and we look forward to seeing you next January!



## Fall Section Meeting– FONA International

The Fall Section Meeting was held at Blatt Beer and Table in Downtown Omaha. Speaker Ms. Lisa Demme, Business Unit Marketing Director of FONA international, gave an interactive presentation on novel and up and coming flavor trends from the FONA lecture series *Flavor University*. The section was exposed to many new tastes, flavors, and textures from all over the world, and FONA helped the group imagine potential applications for the unique fruits, seeds, and juices.

IFT-A members sampled various forms of Baobab, Cherimoya, Cupuacu, Feijoa, Jackfruit, Maqui Berry, and Persimmon. Ms. Demme directed the group through each item's traditional uses, current sightings in the market, and future applications for each food. With her expertise, Ms. Demme navigated IFT-A through important flavor and texture nuances of each sample, explaining the commercial draw of the new wave of ingredients.

Overall, the Fall Meeting was a great success, drawn to an uplifting close by a brief section update by IFT-A Chair Ryan Talley. It was a pleasure to host FONA International, and we look forward to connections with them in the future.

Photos on the right, from the top, Speaker Ms. Lisa Demme presents on “Keeping Up with What’s Next” while IFT-A members follow. Middle photo: Attendees smell and taste samples provided by FONA throughout the presentation. Bottom: IFT-A attendees networking during social hour at Blatt Beer and Table.



## Coming soon!

### Student Scholarship Applications

The funds raised by the silent auction held at the January 2015 meeting will be used to fund student scholarships. More information regarding scholarships will be made available soon, please check the IFT-A website for more information.

The scholarship application window begins January 31 and the deadline for applications is March 7. All students applying for scholarships must be members of IFT.

## Get involved with IFT-A!

### Call for 2015 Ballot Nominations

The IFT-A Board is currently seeking nominations to fill three positions for the September 2015-August 2016 year. The open positions include:

- Chair-elect
- Secretary
- Member at Large (Board of Directors)

If you would like to nominate yourself or another IFT-A member for a position, please email your nomination to Jennifer Mancuso at [jennifer.mancuso@ymail.com](mailto:jennifer.mancuso@ymail.com). **The deadline for nominations is January 28.**

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