



**Bio: Rita Jammet,
Director/ Spoons Across America®**

Rita Jammet has been part of the New York dining scene for more than two decades as the owner of *La Caravelle*, Manhattan's beloved French restaurant. Combining her love for food and children's education, Rita became one of the founders of **Spoons Across America®** and the **AIWF/New York Days of Taste®** program.

Growing up and working in many countries in Europe, the Far East, and Middle East, Rita became multilingual, speaking French, English, Spanish, Arabic, and Italian. In 1977, Rita met and later married André Jammet in Geneva and moved to Paris. Following the sale of her husband's family's world-renowned hotel – the Bristol – in 1978, Rita worked with a Saudi businessman who was fond of all things French. This diversity of business exposures served Rita well when she and her husband moved to New York in 1980, where she worked for nearly two years with the French Embassy in its Cultural Services department.

After the birth of their three sons, Rita joined Andre in the ownership and operation of *La Caravelle*. As business partner, Rita oversaw all aspects of the business management – legal, financial, marketing and public relations, including annual special events such as fashion shows and citywide functions. In 1996 Rita and Andre received an award from the New York State Restaurant Association for outstanding achievement in fine dining in New York. In September 2000, *La Caravelle* celebrated its 40th anniversary.

Rita is a board member of the New York State Restaurant Association, Manhattan Chapter. Her many charitable involvements include: Mount Sinai Hospital, French American Aid for Children, Les Dames d'Escoffier, the Comité Colbert, Spoons Across America, AIWF Days of Taste* New York, and the Food Council of City Harvest.

Spoons Across America® (SAA)- the source for children's culinary education- is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to educating children, teachers, and families about the benefits of healthy eating. We work to influence the eating habits of children through hands-on education that celebrates the connection to local farmers and the important tradition of sharing meals around the family table.

Spoons Across America® is a collaborative effort of professional organizations, businesses, and volunteers committed to supporting the **Spoons Across America®** mission. Our partners include The James Beard Foundation; The American Institute of Wine & Food/New York Chapter; Freedman Meats, Inc.; Lonesome Dove Western Bistro, Fort Worth, TX; March of Dimes; New York City College of Technology/CUNY; Greenmarket (the citywide farmers market program of the Council on the Environment of New York City); New York Women's Culinary Alliance; Blue Smoke-Jazz Standard; Wheat Foods Council; plus farmers, chefs, restaurateurs, and food professionals across the United States.

Press Contact: Joyce Appelman PH: 516-482-1016, greatappel@aol.com



*The Days of Taste® trademarks and copyrights are the sole and exclusive property of The American Institute of Wine & Food (AIWF). Days of Taste® is a national program of The AIWF implemented throughout America by a majority of its 25 chapters in cities throughout the USA. The AIWF New York Chapter has engaged Spoons Across America® to implement the AIWF Days of Taste® program in the New York area solely on behalf of the AIWF New York Chapter. To learn more about the AIWF Days of Taste® program in your area, please contact The American Institute of Wine & Food national office at (800) 274-2493 or visit www.aiwf.org. If you're interested in the AIWF New York Chapter Days of Taste® program, please contact the AIWF New York Chapter at 718-522-6688.