## LEADING

## What was once a childhood dream is now a reality for President and Owner

of Encore Catering, Lisa Epstein. But the path to her success was not an easy one. Diagnosed with ADHD and dyslexia early in life, Lisa struggled to overcome her disabilities and learned that success for her was only achievable if she focused on the things that she was truly passionate about.

Learning to cook with her father at a young age, Lisa pursued her passion and dreams of becoming a recognized chef by studying and graduating from the Hudson County Culinary Institute. Shortly after graduation, Lisa established ELES Food Service and acquired the then struggling Encore Catering.

From its humble beginnings in a 600 square foot storefront in Madison, to its current 7,500 square foot facility in East Hanover, Encore Catering continues to delight and amaze clients by delivering extraordinary, one-of-a- kind experiences, exquisite food, impeccable service and far from ordinary events that are second to none.

Recognized as a leader in the catering industry in New Jersey, Encore has been awarded numerous achievements including the 2012 Daily Record Readers Choice Award, 2008, 2009 & 2010 NJBiz Top Caterer and ACE Award Finalist to name a few. In 2010 Lisa was inducted into Montville High School's "Hall of

Fame" in recognition of her outstanding success in business.

From upscale weddings to down home barbeques with a twist to drop-off service and more, Encore's attention to detail and high standard of quality are never compromised. Encore's staff of experienced event planners guide clients every step of the way as it relates to themes, menus and venues to ensure that every client is cared for at a personal level.

Realizing her business was growing exponentially, Lisa welcomed on board her sister, Vice President and Co-Owner, Karen Chioccariello, to oversee the daily operations of the business. Together as a team, they have collectively improved and established a brilliant working foundation for Encore.

Lisa's passion for food and desire for innovation and uniqueness is evident in every plate, every display and at every venue served up by Encore Catering and their affiliate divisions - Encore Events, Encore Grill and Encore at the Office, and in response to numerous requests from potential clients seeking a high-end Kosher caterer, Lisa established a new company, Celebrations Kosher

Catering along with her two sisters, Karen Chioccariello and Laurie Epstein.

> Lisa sits on the board of The Hudson County Culinary Institute where she advises on décor and food design. In addition, Lisa works closely with the New Jersey Division of Human Services to offer students with disabilities the opportunity to work at Encore and learn the food service business firsthand.

> Nothing makes Lisa happier than seeing kids realize their dreams and full potential. Having struggled throughout life to make her dreams a reality, helping others with similar afflictions is a part of who Lisa Epstein is, and what Encore Catering stands for.

## Lisa Epstein **ENCORE CATERING**



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