

Gala Glorious Gala

2008 Hospitality Professional of the Year



Liz Neumark, CEO – Great Performances

In almost three decades of being at the top of the food chain in New York City,

Liz Neumark has learned that it is all about satisfying needs. Liz believes there is no more critical time in the relationship between people and the foods they eat or have access to than today. Liz is a visionary in putting future culinary ideas on the plates of New Yorkers and a trend-setter in bringing food politics to the table, all with great taste and memorable flavors.

Liz conceived of Great Performances in 1979 as a waitress service for women in the arts, offering an alternative way to supplement meager artist incomes with work in the catering industry. The company is headquartered in Hudson Square, NYC and is today the largest off premises catering company in the city.

Collaborative relationships with some of the leading cultural institutions in the city have been the major growth vehicle for the company. Exclusive contracts include Jazz at Lincoln Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Sotheby's, Asia Society, Caramoor and Wave Hill.

Liz recently joint ventured with Delaware North Companies to operate what will be the most sought after banquet and event space when it re-opens in October 07 – The Plaza Hotel.

Liz and her family established The Sylvia Center at the farm, a non-profit organization whose mission is to bring the farm experience into the lives of at risk children in neighboring towns and from NYC. The Sylvia Center reconnects children and their families to real foods and real flavors and imparts a lesson of nutrition and healthful eating. Recent visits include the entire first and second grades from PS 180, a Harlem based school.

Liz is a third generation New Yorker, a Barnard graduate who majored in Urban Studies and Political Science. She, her husband and children live in Manhattan.

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Since 2004, **Scott Geraghty** has been the General Manager of The St. Regis Hotel, New York.

He joined The St. Regis as Hotel Manager in 2002 from the Essex House, where he worked as Hotel Manager for four years. He has over thirty years of diverse hotel management experience, including twenty years with Sheraton Hotels and Resorts.

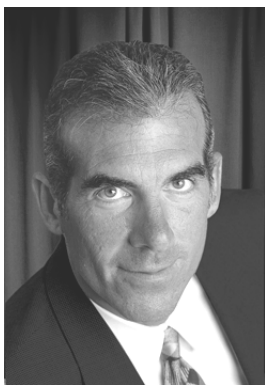
He has held positions as Executive Chef, Director of Food & Beverage, Director of Operations, Director of Rooms, Executive Assistant and Director of Catering at such hotels as the Sheraton Hotels of New

York, Sheraton Society Hill in Philadelphia, Sheraton Greensboro, PGA National Resort, PGA Sheraton Resort in Palm Beach Gardens, FL, Sheraton Washington

Hotel, Contant Guest House in the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Cross Keys Inn in Maryland. Scott has also fulfilled Sheraton corporate executive roles such as Corporate Executive Chef

He received a Bachelors Degree in International Relations from Lehigh University and he has a Degree in Culinary Arts from the Culinary Institute of America. Scott has also spent his time teaching others. He was a Chef Instructor at the Culinary School of Washington and is currently a Guest Lecturer at New York University.

2008 Industry Professional of the Year



**STEPHEN TUCKER—
President and CEO of M. Tucker Co., Inc.**

M. Tucker Co., Inc. was founded in 1955 by Marvin Tucker. In 1974, Stephen joined the family business, loading trucks for a year before eventually moving into sales. He focused on health care accounts, learning all aspects of M. Tucker's business. Over time his ambition, shrewdness, and astute business sense impresses not only his father, but his partners as well. In 1986, Marvin Tucker retires and turns over control of day-to-day business to the second generation; Stephen assumes the position of President and

CEO. The company focuses on the distribution of foodservice equipment, supplies, and disposables. More importantly, the M. Tucker Company is committed to a standard of excellence that will continue to ensure their business partners' success as well as their own. Led by Stephen's vision, the M. Tucker company's spirit of integrity and reliability meets this challenge with the support of their most important resource, their team of dedicated, uncompromising profession-

als. Over the years, Mr. Tucker has been the recipient of numerous awards. The United Jewish Appeal "**Award of Honor**" in 1987. - The American Jewish Committee "**Human Relations Award**" in 1990. - Foodservice Equipment and Supplies Specialist "**Dealer of the Year**" in 1992..-The State of Israel Bonds, North Jersey "**Man of the Year**" 1994 - Foodservice Equipment & Supplies Magazine "**Top Achiever**" of 2002. - American Jewish Committee "**Centennial Leadership Award**" of 2006

Mr. Tucker gives graciously of his time to various civic, charitable and industry associations and organizations.

He has been **Chairman** of the **United Jewish Appeal Foodservice Division**, 1989 -1990. - **President** of the **New York Paper Merchants**, 1993-1995. - **Chairman of the Board of the New York Paper Merchants**, 1996-1998.

Stephen's lovely wife, Ellen Gantz Tucker, is the owner and president of Innovative Telecom Solutions. Their daughter Morgan is a graduate of Cornell University and their son Landon is a student at Columbia University. The family resides in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey.