



19TH ANNUAL
GEORGIA ORGANICS
CONFERENCE & EXPO
FEB. 26-27, 2016
COLUMBUS GEORGIA CONVENTION & TRADE CENTER
COLUMBUS, GA

March 29, 2016

Gayle Skelton
Les Dames d'Escoffier Atlanta Chapter

Dear Gayle,

Greetings from all of us here at Georgia Organics and many **thanks for Les Dames d'Escoffier's generous support** in the amount of \$5,000 to *Grits and Vigor*, our 19th Annual Conference and Expo in Columbus, Ga. Your contribution funded great educational sessions and workshops, informative farm tours, and an inspiring keynote from Joan Gussow. Over 900 folks gathered from all over the state and southeast to work towards a healthy food and farming future.

Here's what some of our attendees had to say about their experience:

"Without the year-round hard work of dedicated pioneers like you, the Good Food movement wouldn't continue to grow. The education you provide is invaluable to our industry of fellow farmers and conscious consumers." -- Jenni Harris, Sponsor and Georgia Organics Board Member



Because of your generous support, here's what we were able to achieve together:

- Attracted **920 attendees** to Columbus for our seminal event of the year.
- Awarded **117 scholarships** to new and established farmers and farm-to-school advocates to attend.
- Composted **908 pounds of food waste**.
- Offered **47 educational workshops, farm tours and educational sessions** with top-notch speakers.
- Organized an **Expo with 71 exhibitors**, providing vital networking and business development opportunities.
- Presented our annual Land Steward Award to **Will Harris** and the Barbara Petit Pollinator Award to **Erin Croom**.
- Vigorously ate **250 pounds of Anson Mills grits** over the two-day conference.

- Raised **\$132,000 in sponsor and in-kind contributions and scholarships** to execute the conference and keep registration affordable.
- Savored a beautiful and delicious **Farmers Feast** executed by a talented group of committed local chefs.
- Received a **4.4 evaluation** rating out of 5 point scale.

Together, with support of our partners we can continue to provide one of the largest sustainable agriculture conferences and expos in the country. Collectively, we have the capacity to change the future of how Georgia farms and eats. We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you next year in Atlanta for our 20th Anniversary!

Want to see more 2016 Conference photos? [Check them out here.](#)

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alie L. Valle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alie" being the most prominent.

Executive Director

We acknowledge your donation of \$5,000 and confirm that \$1,650 is the value of goods or services provided to you by Georgia Organics. Fed. I.D. 58-2345310