



Member Update

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By Tony Burton • Nov 17, 2025

Smart Brevity® count: 3 mins...858 words

In today's November 10, 2025 Update:

- Join Us In Honoring John Schiltz at Stars of the Industry December 4
- Minnesota Makes it's Mark in DoorDash's New Local Commerce Report
- Save the Date: Stars of the Future Returns January 22
- Get ServSafe Certified This Winter at a Class Near You!
- In the News

Is your organization interested in sponsorship? [Email us](#) to learn more.

Honor John Schiltz, New Hall of Fame Inductee, at Stars of the Industry



Let the celebrations begin: Hospitality Minnesota is honored to inductee three new hospitality trailblazers into the Hall of Fame, including [John Schiltz](#), at this year's Stars of the Industry Awards. The awards will be at the Lofton Hotel Wednesday, December 4, 2025, from 5:30 PM—11:00 PM!

About John: John Schiltz's career is the definition of industry leadership, starting as a dishwasher in 1972 before becoming Hyatt's second youngest Executive Chef at 25.

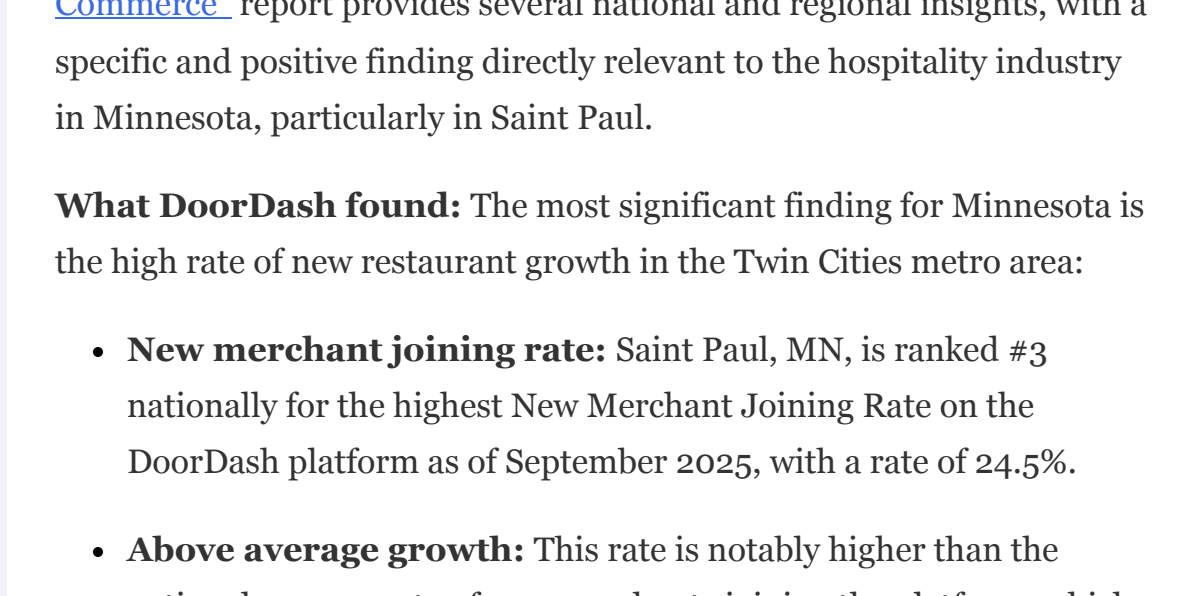
- **Willing culinary hallmarks into existence:** John opened Lake Elmo Inn in 1983, and has sustained its iconic operation for 42 years. He continues to provide elevated dining experiences with the opening of 1881 Eating House in St. Paul.
- **Community engagement and contribution:** Beyond his establishments, John has served as Chair of the Minnesota Restaurant Association, founded the Valley Vine & Harvest Throwdown charity event, and dedicated decades to community and association service.

Go deeper: Read more about John Schiltz's inspiring journey to Hall of Fame [here](#).

Don't miss out! Register to attend the ceremony [here](#) while you still can—space is limited and we are now down to the final seats. Join us to celebrate trailblazers like John and all our finalists!

[Register Now](#)

DoorDash's State of Local Commerce Report Provides Industry Performance Insights



In case you missed it: The inaugural DoorDash "[State of Local Commerce](#)" report provides several national and regional insights, with a specific and positive finding directly relevant to the hospitality industry in Minnesota, particularly in Saint Paul.

What DoorDash found: The most significant finding for Minnesota is the high rate of new restaurant growth in the Twin Cities metro area:

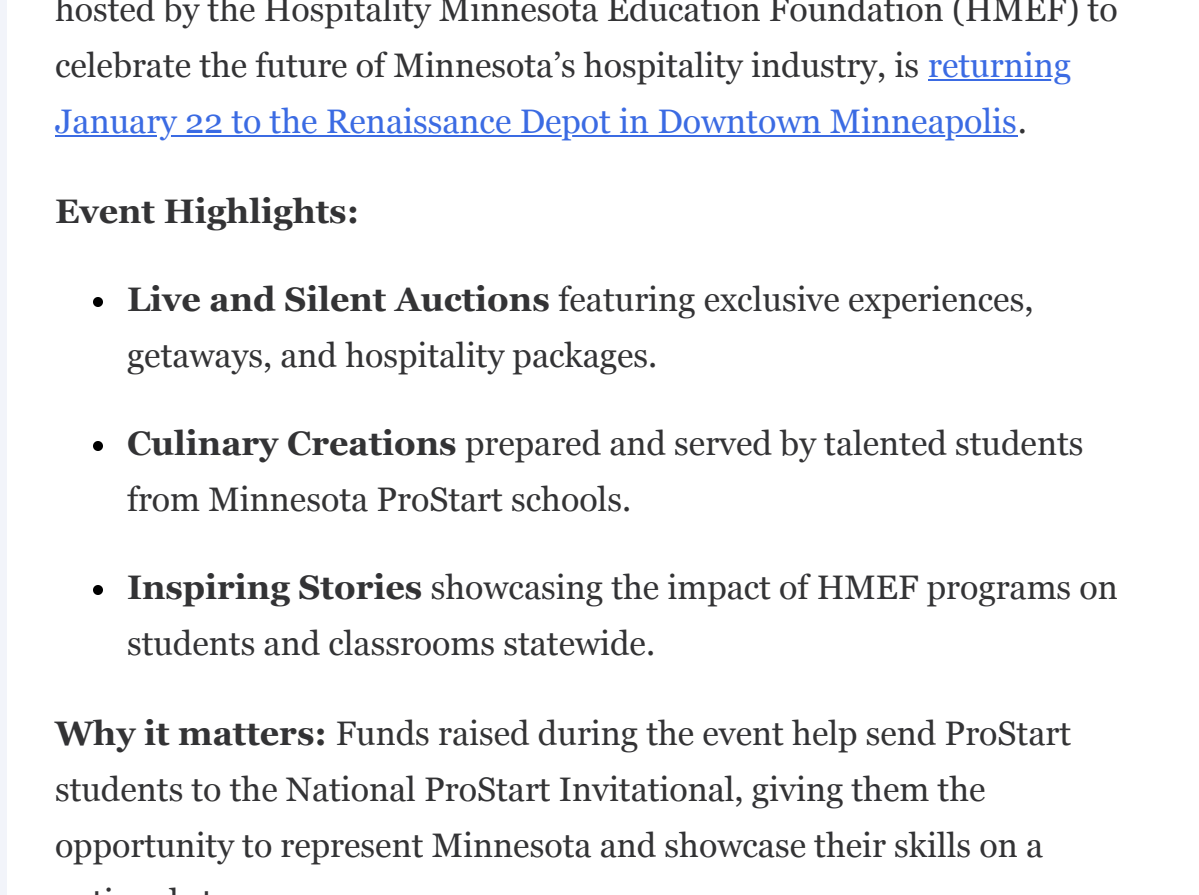
- **New merchant joining rate:** Saint Paul, MN, is ranked #3 nationally for the highest New Merchant Joining Rate on the DoorDash platform as of September 2025, with a rate of 24.5%.
- **Above average growth:** This rate is notably higher than the national average rate of new merchants joining the platform, which is over 18%.

General Trends and Context for Hospitality: Beyond the specific Minnesota finding, DoorDash's report highlights several national trends that provide context for the state's hospitality industry:

- **Slowing price inflation:** Restaurant price inflation has slowed considerably, with the national year-over-year change in the Restaurant Price Index (RPI) at 3.2% as of September 2025, down from 4.8% the previous September.
- **Wage growth outpacing prices:** Since the first quarter of 2024, the national median wage has been growing faster than the RPI, which suggests consumers' dollars are going further, potentially increasing their capacity to spend on dining out.
- **Affordable meals in the midwest:** While no Minnesota cities were listed, a nearby Midwestern city, Milwaukee, WI, was highlighted as having one of the most affordable costs for a typical cheeseburger meal (#2 nationally), indicating a regional trend of affordability in dining options.

[Learn More](#)

Stars of the Future to Return January 22 at Renaissance Depot



Mark Your Calendars! [Stars of the Future](#), an inspiring evening hosted by the Hospitality Minnesota Education Foundation (HMEF) to celebrate the future of Minnesota's hospitality industry, is [returning January 22 to the Renaissance Depot in Downtown Minneapolis](#).

Event Highlights:

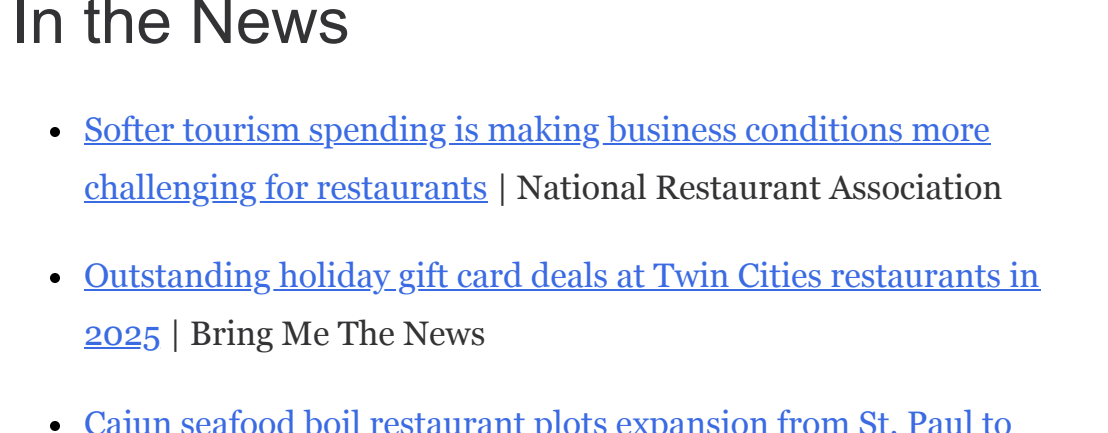
- **Live and Silent Auctions** featuring exclusive experiences, getaways, and hospitality packages.
- **Culinary Creations** prepared and served by talented students from Minnesota ProStart schools.
- **Inspiring Stories** showcasing the impact of HMEF programs on students and classrooms statewide.

Why it matters: Funds raised during the event help send ProStart students to the National ProStart Invitational, giving them the opportunity to represent Minnesota and showcase their skills on a national stage.

- **How to participate:** Purchase early bird tickets (*available until December 5*), sponsor a table, or donate an item to make an impact. Together, we can celebrate today's students and invest in tomorrow's hospitality leaders.

[Register Now](#)

Register Your Team for an Upcoming ServSafe Class



Did you know: You can see our ServSafe class offerings in partnership with Food Safety Guy on our Event Calendar!

- **Why it matters:** Except for satellite or catered feeding sites, all food enterprises in Minnesota are required to have at least one full-time employee who has completed a Food Manager Certification program like ServSafe™.

The dates for upcoming classes are:

- [November 18 - Windom](#)
- [November 19 - Woodbury](#)
- [November 20 - Winona](#)
- [November 21 - Marshall](#)
- [November 21 - Minneapolis East](#)

[Find Your ServSafe Class](#)

In the News

- [Softer tourism spending is making business conditions more challenging for restaurants](#) | National Restaurant Association
- [Outstanding holiday gift card deals at Twin Cities restaurants in 2025](#) | Bring Me The News
- [Cajun seafood boil restaurant plots expansion from St. Paul to Minneapolis](#) | Bring Me The News
- [X2 Pastries opens in St. Paul's Mac-Groveland](#) | Star Tribune

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