



Biography

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ALLYSON AMES

President and Co-Founder

Wonderland Bakery &

Wonderland Bakery Adventure

Allyson Ames, at just 23 years old, is a sizzling young entrepreneur who has captured the imaginations of everyone from the Mayor of Newport Beach, the governor of California, to NBA basketball star Kobe Bryant, Whoopi Goldberg and to the everyday lover of baked goodies and whimsy. As president and co-founder of Wonderland Bakery with her mom, Sondra Ames, Allyson has accomplished much more than most her age, and brings artistic inspiration and culinary expertise to the Bakery.

Wonderland Bakery celebrates a third successful year of business and Allyson will add three additional milestones: the debut of 'Bake Memories at Home Collection of Desserts', the expansion of nationwide stores and the arrival of the animated, talking *Allyson Wonderland Bear by Gund*.

Allyson truly lives a Wonderland experience, with her own bakery that is reminiscent of Willy Wonka, Candyland, Alice in Wonderland and Wizard of Oz, and her own namesake plush bear that will be on Santa's lists around the country.

Allyson was born and raised in Newport Beach and at the early age of five discovered her innate gift and passion for cooking and creating.

"It began with collecting cookbooks, watching food shows and creating food combinations and concoctions," she said. "I was learning techniques, pairing foods, blending flavors, presenting my creations, eating and having fun. I now can reflect on this time and understand I was beginning to connect to my life passion – expressing myself through the creativity of food."

After high school, Allyson attended the Culinary Art Institute of America and is currently working on her undergraduate degree in Food Science and Nutrition.

Her long list of accolades and accomplishments began even before she finished high school. Allyson founded Paradise Chocolate Shoppe in 2002 and was named the Best Young Chef in

Allyson Ames, President & Co-Founder, Wonderland Bakery

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America in 2003. That same year she was also awarded the Teen Merit Leadership Foundation Award and the Entrepreneur Business Program Scholarship Award. The following year in 2004, she received the only award in the history of the Orange County Business Journal – the Up and Coming Woman of Excellence in Business Award. She has apprenticed with the Culinary Olympics in Germany and received the American Culinary Federation National Championship Award. In October 2005, with the help of her mother, Allyson opened Wonderland Bakery – the unique and original retail bakery concept specializing in cupcakes, cookies, cakes, artistic desserts and whimsical gifts.

To celebrate her 21st birthday, she launched 21 Enchanting Cupcakes, a selection of 21 new and enticing flavors for the growing list of celebrity fans and loyal customers. “Art to Eat” cookies in over 1,000 shapes and theme designs help celebrate milestones with signature cookie favors. She has also designed selections for corporate and business customers.

In May 2008 California Governor Schwarznegger and Senator Harmon presented Allyson and Wonderland Bakery with the 2008 California Business of the Year for the business success and community success at a luncheon in Sacramento, Calif.

In 2006, the mayor named Allyson and Wonderland the “Sweet Ambassador” to the city of Newport Beach and Allyson was commissioned to bake the “Cake of the Century” with an original and official flavor to commemorate the city’s 100th birthday.

Throughout her work as a culinary prodigy, Allyson has kept philanthropy at the top of her priority list. In 2006, she and her mother established Thanks a Million Cookies and Cupcakes Foundation, which contributes to countless organizations and causes. Allyson is recognized as a mentor and inspirational role model for other young girls and future entrepreneurs who want to create and follow their dream.

Allyson has been featured in a number in newspapers, magazines and television shows both locally and nationally and is often called on to perform her artistic culinary talents for a variety of signature events including the Emmys, Grammy’s and movie premieres.

With the new Allyson Wonderland Bear by Gund arriving for the holidays, people are naturally asking, “Is there really an Allyson Wonderland?” The answer is, “Yes! And her name is Chef Allyson Ames.”

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