



Charisse McGill

ENTREPRENEUR

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Expertise

- Food Marketing
- Local Food Eco-System
- Open-Air Food Markets
- Tourism
- Hospitality
- Customer Service
- Grass Roots Initiatives
- Networking
- Sales & Fundraising
- Curriculum Development
- Event Planning



BIO

Charisse's introduction into the local food industry came through a suburban Philadelphia Farmers' Market, where she served as the Market Manager for 7 seasons. During that time she grew the market to be second largest in the Philadelphia area and had the unique opportunity to work with local independent food producers. The experience led Charisse to start Lokal Artisan Foods.

In 2018, Charisse opened her French Toast Bites stand in Philadelphia, and in 2020, became the first Black woman to own and operate a food establishment in Spruce Street Harbor Park and Cherry Street Pier on Penn's Landing. Additionally, Charisse became the first black woman in Pennsylvania with a signature craft beer, "French Toast Bites Ale." Additional products brought to market include French Toast Bites Spice and French Toast Bites Coffee. Charisse earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Temple University's School of Sport, Tourism and Hospitality Management and in 2018, she enrolled in the MBA Food Marketing program at Saint Joseph's University.

AWARDS

Small Business of the Year, 2020

African American Chamber of Commerce of PA, NJ, DE

Philly: 50 Power Women, 2021

Metro Philly Newspaper

Most Influential African Americans, 2021

Philadelphia Tribune Newspaper

Best French Toast, 2021

Metro Philly Newspaper

IMPACT: Woman Entrepreneur of the Year, 2021

United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern NJ

ADVISORY ROLES

Restaurant Advisory Council, 2021

DoorDash

Advisory Council, 2022

C-CAP (Careers through Culinary Arts Program)

NAT'L & REGIONAL PARTNERS

DoorDash (National Ambassador)

Gopuff (Put Me On Accelerator)

Yards Brewing Company (Brew Partner)





Bean2Bean Coffee Company (Brew Partner)

PRESS
















CHARISSE MCGILL, ENTREPRENEUR



National Press

-  **Forbes, November 2020**
[Philadelphia's 'French Toast Lady' Brews A Beer, Puts Bacon On A Stick, And Prepares For World Domination](#)
-  **Yahoo LIFE, November 2020**
[Black woman's French Toast Bites Ale make history in Pennsylvania](#)
-  **Gopuff, February 2022**
[Put Me On | Meet the Founder: Charisse McGill, Founder of French Toast Bites](#)
-  **BET + DoorDash Nat'l Commercial, February 2021**
[DoorDash TV Spot, 'BET: Black History Month: French Toast Bites'](#)

Regional Press

-  **PHL 17, December 2018**
[Philadelphia's 'French Toast Lady' Brews A Beer, Puts Bacon On A Stick, And Prepares For World Domination](#)
-  **CBS3 Philadelphia, April 2020**
[Takeout With Tori: Breakfast Favorites, Chinese With Philly Twist Readily Available Thanks To Spirit Of Coming Together](#)
-  **6ABC News, Philadelphia, July 2020**
[First Black female chef at Spruce Street Harbor Park offers sweets](#)
-  **CBS3 Philadelphia, May 2021**
[Charisse McGill Teaming Up With Yards Brewing To Distribute French Toast Bites Ale](#)
-  **BET + DoorDash Nat'l Commercial, February 2021**
[DoorDash TV Spot, 'BET: Black History Month: French Toast Bites'](#)
-  **CBS3 Philadelphia, May 2021**
[French Toast Bites are a new twist on a breakfast staple](#)
-  **Fox29, November 2021**
[Charisse McGill Teaming Up With Yards Brewing To Distribute French Toast Bites Ale](#)
-  **Philadelphia Inquirer, December 2018**
[She wants to be 'the Auntie Anne of French toast'](#)
-  **Philadelphia Sun, April 2019**
[Local mogul hopes to go far with her innovative French toast bites](#)
-  **Philadelphia Tribune, June 2019**
[French toast entrepreneur lands new retail location](#)
-  **Philadelphia Tribune, April 2020**
[Coronavirus crisis leads to business partnership](#)
-  **Metro Philadelphia, July 2020**
[Charisse McGill is finding her sweet spot in the midst of a pandemic](#)
-  **Philadelphia Tribune, September 2020**
[Charisse McGill becomes first African-American female vendor at Spruce Street Harbor Park](#)
-  **Philadelphia Business Journal, October 2020**
[Lokal Artisan Foods owner saw capital flood in after unrest flared up](#)
-  **Philadelphia Inquirer, May 2021**
[Charisse McGill believes in her French Toast Bites. Yards Brewing does, too. A beer is reborn.](#)