

**MEDIA CONTACT:****Wilmington College**

Randy Sarvais

Director of Public Relations

Phone: 937-382-6661, X344

Email: [randy\\_sarvais@wilmington.edu](mailto:randy_sarvais@wilmington.edu)**Hannah Banana™**

Pete Spinner

Vice President

Phone: 847-242-9441

Email: [pete.spinner@hannahbananabread.com](mailto:pete.spinner@hannahbananabread.com)**Hannah Banana President and Founder  
Named 2008 Ralph J. Stolle Lecturer**

*Lisa A. Spinner to Share Success Story at  
Wilmington College's Fourth Annual Entrepreneurship Program*

**WILMINGTON, OH—April, 8 2008**—Lisa A. Spinner, the top banana at Hannah Banana™, has been named this year's speaker for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Ralph J. Stolle Lecture Series in Entrepreneurship. She will share her company's success story in the Kelly Center at Wilmington College on April 15, at 7 p.m. A reception will precede the event at 6 p.m.

Spinner is president and founder of the company that is named after her daughter, Hannah. Husband Peter, who serves as the company's vice president of marketing and operations, will also visit the College.

"This little baked goods company that started in our household kitchen always filled a nice niche in the specialty foods industry, but I never imagined it would also lead to such a distinguished honor," Lisa Spinner said. "I am flattered to be chosen as this year's speaker for the Ralph J. Stolle Lecture Series in Entrepreneurship."

The Illinois-based firm was started in 2000 as a specialty supplier to a handful of coffee shops in the Chicago area. Lisa has grown her family's recipe for banana bread into several trademarked baked goods that have become bestsellers in specialty food stores throughout the country. The company's baked good lines include Hannah Banana Bread™, Peter Pumpkin Bread™, JonApple Cinnamon Bread™ and Declan's Irish Soda Bread™, all of which are named after family members.

"These products have captured the imaginations of dessert connoisseurs as well as those who simply enjoy unique and high-quality sweetbreads with their coffee," said Steven Austin Stovall, Ph.D and Chair of Wilmington College's Entrepreneurship Program. "Lisa's drive to take these products from conception to production to distribution embodies the truest spirit of entrepreneurship in America."

**(More)**

While the company's success is interesting in and of itself, Lisa's professional background makes it even more compelling. She served as a felony trial support investigator for the Cook County (Ill.) State's Attorney's Office for eight years before resigning to become a stay-at-home mother first and a budding entrepreneur second.

Lisa's unique background and her ability to establish a strong work-life balance helped the company land its first major public relations coup. Producers from FOOD Network featured Lisa and her story in a four-minute expose on Giada de Laurentiis' hour-long special entitled "Treats of the Dessert Trade." The show has aired nationally more than 70 times since 2005.

"That show really captured Lisa's spirit, charm and charisma—attributes which have become the heart and sole of the company" Peter Spinner said. "The way Lisa started the company is inspirational, to be sure, but so too is the way she has maintained a focus on quality as the firm has grown."

Providing gourmet-quality sweetbreads that leave long-lasting impressions with consumers is just part of the reason why Hannah Banana has succeeded, Lisa Spinner said.

"High quality products are imperative for success," she said, "but true loyalty from customers, vendors and employees cannot exist unless a company embraces these relationships with equally high levels of integrity and service. Practicing these values on a daily basis is the real secret to success."

Lisa has a B.A. in political science from Illinois State University while Peter obtained his B.A. in communications from Loyola University Chicago and an M.B.A. from Lake Forest Graduate School of Management, Lake Forest, Ill. The couple resides in Glencoe, Ill., with their four children, Jonathan, Hannah, Joshua and Declan.

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**About The Ralph J. Stolle Lecture Series in Entrepreneurship:**

The Ralph J. Stolle Lecture Series in Entrepreneurship is sponsored by Wilmington College, located in Wilmington, Ohio. The Entrepreneurship Program is part of the college's curriculum. The late Ralph J. Stolle was a member of Wilmington College's Board of Trustees and long-time supporter of the College's mission in education. A prolific inventor and businessman, Stolle is famous for developing machinery that economically mass-produces aluminum beverage cans with pull-tab tops. Stolle sold his can producing company to Alcoa Corp. in the 1970s and held more than 50 patents at the time of his death in 1996. This annual lecture series and an endowed faculty chair in free enterprise and entrepreneurship are manifestations of his support.

**Hannah Banana™**

Based in Glencoe, IL, Hannah Banana™ was founded in 2000 to provide gourmet-caliber baked goods derived from a series of family-owned recipes. The company's baked good lines include Hannah Banana Breads™, Peter Pumpkin Breads™, JonConnor Apple Cinnamon Bread™ and Declan's Irish Soda Bread™. All Hannah Banana products are sold through coffee houses, specialty grocers, in-store cafes, gourmet foods delivery services, catalogues and restaurants. They are also packaged and drop shipped as corporate and personal gifts. Call 847-242-9441 for more details or visit [www.hannahbananabread.com](http://www.hannahbananabread.com).