

“I grew up in the kitchen in my high chair”

Kyrsta Scully | Four Seasons Philadelphia/Victory Snowmass

Kyrsta Scully has defied expectations in a male-dominated industry.

Scully, who recently left her job as food-and-beverage manager for the Four Seasons Philadelphia, is again defying expectations — this time in a Colorado ski resort.

“Kyrsta works in an environment heavily dominated by males. She is a true professional that is able to keep pace while remaining positive, creative and encouraging to other women she coaches and mentors,” Kelli Potter, who nominated Scully, wrote in the submission to the Philadelphia Business Journal’s Women of Distinction contest.

Early this month, Scully started as food-and-beverage director at the Viceroy Snowmass, near Aspen, Colo. The Viceroy bills itself as a “ski-in, ski-out” resort, with access to four ski resorts. The resort, built at a cost of \$180 million, opened Nov. 25 — just in time for ski season.

As a result, there was no time to lose.

“I have literally been working around the clock since I got off the airplane,” she said of her new job.

Scully got her start in her grandpar-

UP CLOSE

NAME: Kyrsta Scully

AGE: 42

TITLE: Food-and-beverage director

EMPLOYER: Viceroy Snowmass, Snowmass Village, Colo. (as of Nov. 9)

EXPERIENCE: Four Seasons Philadelphia, director of food and beverage (2004–2009); Regent Beverly Wilshire, banquet manager (2001–2004); Hilton Old Town, food-and-beverage manager (1999–2000); Willard InterContinental, manager (1991–1999).

EDUCATION: University of Virginia, finance and marketing (1990)

HOMETOWN: Staunton, Va., and Elmira, N.Y.

CURRENT RESIDENCE: Glenwood Springs, Colo.

ents’ restaurant, Pierce’s 1894 Restaurant in Elmira Heights, N.Y.

“I grew up in the kitchen in my high chair while my family worked the floor,” she said, adding that meals were accompanied by French fries and Béarnaise sauce.

She was introduced to wine in one of



her first jobs, at the Willard InterContinental in Washington, D.C., where she interviewed with the food-and-beverage director, Jim Hutton.

“I remember my interview with him. I was 23 years old. He asked me some rather easy questions on wine which I had no clue,” she recalled. “I didn’t

know and he said, ‘You have a lot to learn.’ And I did, and he taught me so much.”

In her five years at the Four Seasons Philadelphia, Scully worked her way up to the position of food-and-beverage director.

Outside of work, Scully is an avid supporter of children’s causes. She urged the Four Seasons to partner with Steppingstone Scholars and raised \$100,000 for the nonprofit, said Patricia Wellenbach, who also nominated Scully for Women of Distinction.

Now living in Glenwood Springs, Colo., Scully has turned her focus to her new job.

“The Four Seasons is a great company to work for,” she said. “It has developed a very strong sense of structure and opening hotels, there are guidelines in place to follow. Working for a smaller company in the Viceroy Hotel Group, which only has around 12 hotels, there will be a lot of structure to put in place that I will have to develop with the team. Not to mention driving in over a foot of snow that we got last night in Snowmass.”

— Peter Van Allen