



Sheila Lucero

**Executive Chef
Jax Fish House**

A native of Denver, Sheila was first introduced to food and cooking by her father, an avid food lover and cook. After graduation from high school, Sheila received a scholarship to play soccer in Miami, Florida. While at Florida International University playing soccer and studying biology, she indulged in her culinary cravings and explored the wonderful and varied South Florida cuisines.

Imparted with the respect and passion for food instilled in her by her father, Sheila chose to continue her education, and graduated from the Colorado Art Institute with a degree in the culinary arts. Starting out in delis and bakeries prior to and during school, Sheila discovered her love of energy and the enthusiasm kitchens can have. "It's a lot like being on the soccer field, working as a team to reach our goals." While completing her culinary education she worked as a line cook at several Denver restaurants. Sheila was part of the opening crew at Jax Fish House, Denver. She was under the guidance of select few that has helped put Denver on the national culinary map. The creative challenges brought to her as she was promoted to Sous Chef under the guidance of Dave Query and chef/owner Jamey Fader.

Sheila became Chef in the summer of 2002, where she immediately made her mark by receiving the accolades of best seafood by 5280 magazine, Westword Magazine, City Search and the Rocky Mountain News. Sheila has also appeared twice on 9news and is asked to participate in the city's best philanthropic events. Searching for a way to support and celebrate the female force in Denver and Boulder kitchens, Sheila created Females on Fire in 2004, where the finest female chefs in Denver and Boulder come together to present a delicious menu with wine pairings. All proceeds from the event benefit the Females on Fire Culinary Scholarship which affords local women with culinary school opportunities at Johnson & Wales University. Sheila has also donated her time and talent to Dos Casas, March of Dimes, Pay it Forward, and Work Operations for Women, to name a few. In 2009 Sheila became the Executive Chef of Jax Fish House Boulder and Denver.

