



Contact: LUPEC NYC  
Francine Cohen [francine@speed-rack.com](mailto:francine@speed-rack.com)  
917 607 2404  
[Vanessa Polk vanessa@speed-rack.com](mailto:Vanessa Polk vanessa@speed-rack.com)

**Speed Rack races to find the fastest woman in America and raise funds to find a cure**

**New York, NY, September 29, 2011** - This October, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Speed Rack launches a 10 city tour to find the fastest female bartender in America, while raising funds for breast cancer charities. The tour follows the success of the inaugural LUPEC (Ladies United for the Preservation of Endangered Cocktails) Speed Rack competition in New York City this past May, which raised \$3,500.

Speed Rack is a national cocktail competition that features top female bartenders in key cocktail markets and puts them head to head in timed challenges. It is the first competition to highlight the up and coming generation of strong women in the spirits industry.

Using sponsors' products\* participating bartenders are required to make a round of cocktails, culled from a list of 50 accepted industry standard recipes, in front of a panel of judges. Judges will rate each drink based on prep time and accuracy. The judging panel includes spirit industry luminaries such as Dale DeGroff, Julie Reiner, Audrey Saunders, and locally based hospitality leaders in each city.

The tour kicks off in Boston, Massachusetts on October 10, 2011 at Villa Victoria Center

for the Arts ([www.villavictoriaarts.org](http://www.villavictoriaarts.org)). During the competition small bites from Citizen /Franklin Cafe/Franklin Southie, Toro/Coppa, Myers + Chang, and Trina's Starlite Lounge will be served as guest judges Jackson Canon, Bar Director for Eastern Standard and Island Creek Oyster Bar, and Misty Kalkofen, of Drink Boston, and LUPEC Boston President critique the drinks.

Speed Rack will then travel to other cocktail focused cities with strong LUPEC Chapters including Portland (Oct 23, 2011), Los Angeles (Nov 13, 2011), and Washington DC (Dec 4, 2011). In 2012 Speed Rack will travel to San Francisco, Houston, Denver, South Florida, Las Vegas, and Chicago, all with the goal of raising \$75,000 before the ultimate Miss Speed Rack is crowned in May 2012 at the national finals in NYC.

Created by Ivy Mix and Lynnette Marrero of LUPEC NYC, the 10 city tour will be produced by Lindsey Johnson of Lush Life productions and event coordinated by Claire Bertin-Lang of Proof ABV.

Additional information can be found on the Speed Rack website [www.speed-rack.com](http://www.speed-rack.com), on Facebook [www.facebook.com/speedrackinfo](http://www.facebook.com/speedrackinfo) and on twitter @speed-rack. To compete please contact [ivy@speed-rack.com](mailto:ivy@speed-rack.com) or [lynette@speed-rack.com](mailto:lynette@speed-rack.com). Tickets can be purchased at [www.speedrack.eventbrite.com](http://www.speedrack.eventbrite.com).

\*Participating Sponsors for 2011 events:

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