

Recommended



**Demonstrators rally
outside court for
couple...**



**Cuomo will soon
distribute a billion in
Medicaid...**



**Juneteenth chance
to reflect on African
American...**



**Schenectady looks
to paint Black Lives
Matter sign...**



**A
C
p:**

LIVING

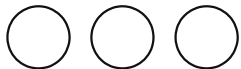
Winners all around at Albany Wine & Dine festival

Chefs, mixologists show their best creations at benefit for arts groups



Steve Barnes

Updated: Jan. 23, 2019 6:02 p.m.







Attendees at the gala dinner for last weekend's Albany Chefs' Food & Wine Festival: Wine & Dine for the Arts included, from left, Ila Patel, Subrina Dhammi, Angana Patel, festival board member Neerav Patel and News Channel 13 co-anchor and event emcee Benita Zahn. The gala for the 10th annual festival was held at the Albany Capital Center in Albany. (Photo by Joe Putrock/Special to the Times Union)
Joe Putrock

The 10th-anniversary Wine & Dine for the Arts festival, held last weekend in Albany, was projected to be one of the largest ever in terms of attendance as a result of a move last year from its longtime home, the Hilton Albany, to the Empire State Plaza, and the gala dinner this year moving from the plaza to Albany Capital Center.

Nearly 600 tickets were sold for Saturday night's gala, up about 20 percent because of the larger room. Overall, the festival attracted about 2,800 people, organizers said.

ADVERTISEMENT

Article continues below this ad



Next Up: Demonstrators rally outside court for couple...

Below are the winners for various competitions held over the weekend.

Signature Chefs Invitational: Fabrizio Facchini, Taverna Novo, Saratoga Springs. Facchini's win earns him a place as one of the chefs cooking for the gala for 2020. Invitational chefs were given a mystery basket with trout, rabbit, chickpeas and eggplant. Facchini made an appetizer of smoked trout with pappardelle and

chickpeas; his entree was fried rabbit with orange, pomegranate molasses and mint, with eggplant seasoned with thyme and olive oil.

Bloody mary competition:

People's choice: Logan Hoffis, Nicole's Restaurant, Albany. The Bloody Italian, with roasted tomato, plum tomato, fresh basil, cherry pepper, lemon and pesto, garnished with tomato, mozzarella and basil crystals. Will be added to Nicole's cocktail menu in a week or so.

ADVERTISEMENT

Article continues below this ad

Ad

TUNGSTEN OPTICAL

A website makes it real.

START YOUR FREE TRIAL TODAY

Sales Overview

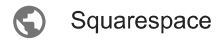
Squarespace Website Builder

Make and manage your own professional website w



REVENUE \$5,479
EMAIL COUNT 84
USERS 105

SQUARESPACE



ADVERTISEMENT
Article continues below this ad

Up Next - Wedding Gift Ideas That Are Outside the Box



Judges' choice: Ysrael "Izzy" Quezada, Ama Cocina, Albany. Maria Envidiosa (Envious Mary), a green bloody mary with salsa verde, green grape juice, kiwi juice, mango, pickled serrano and cucumber vodka, rimmed with celery salt and green peppercorn. Available for Saturday brunch starting this weekend.

Manhattan competition:

People's choice: Logan Hoffis, Nicole's Restaurant. Roasted Fighattan, with bourbon, Carpano Antica, Montenegro Amaro, reduction of sherry and roasted fig, black-walnut bitters; and Bourbon Americano, with bourbon, espresso, hazelnut liqueur and Averna Amaro. Will be added to Nicole's cocktail menu in a week or so.

Judges' choice: Olivia Savas, 677 Prime, Albany. Manhattan Experience, with bourbon, sweet vermouth, aquavit, banana liqueur, mole bitters and cacao nibs; and Tai'd Up in Delhi, with bourbon, pineapple liqueur, orange curacao, orgeat syrup, lime juice and cardamom bitters. Will be available at 677 Prime starting this week.

Most Popular

- 1. Cache of LSD, mushrooms, pot found in raid at Albany home, deputies said**
 - 2. Gillibrand lists Rensselaer County home for sale**
-

3. **Police: Albany store employee attacked by customer for trying to enforce COVID-19 precautions**

4. **Marylou Whitney items up for sale can be viewed on Wednesday**

5. **Gatherings of up to 25 allowed in Capital Region starting Wednesday**

Slider Slam:

People's choice: Zach Simard and Elliott Vogel, Daley's on Yates, Schenectady. French onion-braised short rib, cheddar sauce, crisp parsnip and sorrel, brioche bun. Available as an appetizer at Daley's on Yates starting this week and at Old Daley on Crooked Lake for 10 weeks of weeks of winter dining starting Thursday, Jan. 24.

Judges' choice: Jaime Ortiz and Ken Kehn, 677 Prime. Tandoori beef, mango chutney, lime pickle, raita, Kashmir chiles, cucumber and cilantro. Likely to be available at 677 Prime on an occasional basis as a daily feature starting as soon as this week.

Final net proceeds from the festival are still being totaled but they were expected to exceed \$110,000, bringing Wine & Dine's 10-year total to more than \$1 million. (The total after the first nine years was \$925,000.) Main beneficiaries of the 2019 festival are the Albany Barn, Capital Repertory Theatre, Palace Theatre and Park Playhouse. Secondary beneficiaries are Albany Center Gallery, Albany Institute of History & Art, Albany Symphony, Black Dimension in Art, Capitaland Chorus, Capital Cinema, eba Dance and Steamer No. 10.

sbarnes@timesunion.com • 518-454-5489 • blog.timesunion.com/tablehopping • @Tablehopping • facebook.com/SteveBarnesFoodCritic

Sign up for our Table Hopping newsletter

Email address

SIGN UP

By subscribing, you agree to our [Terms of Use](#) and acknowledge that your information will be used as described in our [Privacy Notice](#).



Written By
Steve Barnes

Reach Steve on

Steve Barnes has worked at the Times Union since 1996, served as arts editor for six years, and since 2005 has been a senior writer.

Since 2006, Steve has passed along his knowledge, or at least his opinions, to young writers as a journalism instructor at the University at Albany.

Contact him at **(518) 454-5489**

More for You

Montana Man Discovers He Has Oldest DNA in America

Genetics Digest | Sponsored

3 Ways Your Dog Asks For Help

Dr. Marty Nature's Blend | Sponsored

Skip the Doctor and Upgrade to the World's Smartest CPAP

Easy Breathe CPAP Company: ResMed's AirSense 10 Auto CPAP | Sponsored

How Dogs Cry For Help: 3 Warning Signs Your Dog Is Crying For...

Dr. Marty ProPower Plus Pet Supplement | Sponsored

TOP

ABOUT

- [Our Company](#)
- [Newspaper Delivery Safety Procedures](#)
- [Advertising](#)
- [Interest Based Ads](#)
- [Terms of Use](#)
- [Privacy Notice](#)
- [Your California Privacy Rights](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Jobs at the TU](#)

CONTACT

- [Blogs](#)
- [Weather](#)
- [School Closings](#)
- [Events Calendar](#)
- [Weddings/Celebrations](#)
- [Births](#)
- [Obituaries](#)
- [Online Store](#)
- [Puzzles Palace](#)

SERVICES

- [Subscriber Services](#)
- [Home Delivery](#)
- [Become a Carrier](#)
- [iPad app](#)
- [Copyright and Reprint](#)
- [e-Edition](#)

HEARST *newspapers*

©2020 Hearst

