

RAM Award Winners to Be Announced April 30

NOTE: Due to the "March Blizzard," the Maryland ProStart Student Invitational was postponed until later in the month, and the results were not available at the time of this submission. For a list of the winning schools, please go to marylandrestaurants.com.

The finalists for the Restaurant Association of Maryland's (RAM) annual awards have been decided, and voting opened to the public in late March. Now, we all wait until April 30 when the winners will be announced



as part of the RAM Awards Gala held at the Baltimore Renaissance Harborplace Hotel. Each year, hundreds of nominations are submitted to RAM for each category. It is then up to members of the public to vote for their favorites. The results will be tabulated and the winners announced live during the awards program. We promise that the person responsible for the envelopes will not be posting on Twitter!

Maryland has 11,000 restaurants and foodservice establishments that employ nearly 200,000 people. Restaurants are the cornerstone of the economy and local communities. The RAM Awards Gala is the annual celebration and recognition of the hard work that restaurant employees and owners put in every day to serve their customers.

Maryland's Favorite Bar or Tavern Finalists
 Dock Street Bar & Grill, Annapolis
 Fish Head Cantina, *Halethorpe*
 Harborside Bar & Grill, *Ocean City*
 Nottingham's, *Columbia*
 The Point in Fells, *Baltimore*

Wine & Beverage Program of the Year Finalists
 Bond Street Social, *Baltimore*
 Dry 85, *Annapolis*
 Jules, *Ocean City*
 The Tasting Room, *Frederick*
 Wine Market Bistro, *Baltimore*

Craft Brew Program of the Year Finalists Presented by Evolution Craft Brewing
 Oscar's Alehouse, *Eldersburg*
 Frisco Tap House, *Gambrills*
 Tapp'd, *Bethesda*
 White Oak Tavern, *Columbia*
 World of Beer, *Baltimore*

Maryland's Favorite Restaurant Finalists
 Iron Rooster, *Annapolis*
 Madrones, *Frederick*
 Mission BBQ, *statewide*
 Mon Ami Gabi, *Bethesda*
 The Prime Rib, *Baltimore*

Maryland's Chef of the Year Finalists Presented by Oracle
 George Batlas, *Manor Tavern*
 Brigitte Bledsoe, *Miss Shirley's Café*
 Scott Chambers, *La Ferme*
 Jeremy Hoffman, *Preserve*
 Enzo Livia, *Il Pizzico*

The Heart of the Industry Award is given to a restaurant employee who goes above and beyond in his or her responsibilities to ensure that operations run smoothly and customers are given the best service.

Heart of the Industry Award Finalists
 Garret Hadel,
Bartender at Jimmy's Famous Seafood
 Hilary Hogarty,
Server at Elkridge Furnace Inn

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INDUSTRY AWARDS

**Brice & Shirley Phillips
Lifetime Achievement Award**
 Peter Plamondon Sr.,
Roy Rogers

Otto Schellhase Award
 Maria Vaccaro,
Vaccaro's Italian Pastry Shop

**Maryland Hospitality Hall of Honor,
Class of 2017**
 The Bowman Restaurant, *Parkville*
 The Brewer's Art, *Baltimore*
 Chat and Chew Restaurant, *Westernport*
 Ellicott Mills Brewing Company,
Ellicott City
 Minato Sushi Bar, *Baltimore*

VOTING CATEGORIES

**Maryland's Favorite
New Restaurant Finalists**
 Alchemy Elements, *Bel Air*
 Sello's Italian Oven & Bar, *Ocean City*
 Duck Duck Goose, *Bethesda*
 RockSalt Grille, *Westminster*
 Slice New York Pizza, *Towson*