

NEWS RELEASE

THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL EVENTS



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ANNOUNCING 2011 JAZZ & RIB FEST BEST RIBS AWARDS WINNERS

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Jazz & Rib Fest, produced by the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department, announces the winners of the 2011 Best Ribs Awards. The 32nd annual Jazz & Rib Fest took place July 22–24 in The Arena District along the riverfront.

Columbus Recreation and Parks Director Alan McKnight presented the winning rib burners with trophies Sunday evening. Twenty-three rib burners competed for Critics' Choice, Critics' All-Ohio Champion, Big Whigs' Award, People's Choice, and Best Sauce.

The 2011 Best Ribs Awards Winners

Critics' Choice <u>Champion:</u> Blazin' Bronco BBQ (<i>Port St. Lucie, FL</i>) <u>Runner-up:</u> Texas Thunder BBQ (<i>Bolingbrook, IL</i>) <u>Third Place:</u> Mojo's Rib Shack (<i>Diamond, OH</i>)	Big Whigs' Award <u>Champion:</u> Blazin' Bronco BBQ (<i>Port St. Lucie, FL</i>) <u>Runner-up:</u> Jack on the Bone International Rib Team (<i>Massillon, OH</i>)
Critics' All-Ohio Champion <u>Champion:</u> Mojo's Rib Shack (<i>Diamond, OH</i>) <u>Runner-up:</u> Smokin' Joes Ribs (<i>Columbus, OH</i>)	People's Choice <u>Champion:</u> Big Boned BBQ Co. (<i>Malta, IL</i>) <u>Runner-up:</u> Chicago Barbeque Company (<i>Burr Ridge, IL</i>)
Best Sauce: Texas Thunder BBQ (<i>Bolingbrook, IL</i>)	

The 2011 Jazz & Rib Fest Judges

Professional Critics Dan Hurst, <i>Kansas City Barbecue Society Certified Judge</i> Dave Roebuck, <i>Kansas City Barbecue Society Certified Judge</i> Ken Gipe, <i>Kansas City Barbecue Society Certified Judge</i> Jon Martin, <i>Kansas City Barbecue Society Certified Judge</i> Steve Stover, <i>Zagat Survey Editor</i> Trace Baird, <i>Kansas City Barbecue Society Certified Judge</i> Ginny VanHoose, <i>Kansas City Barbecue Society Certified Judge</i> DeLonna Barnett, <i>Kansas City Barbecue Society's Great American BBQ Tour</i> Robert Skalada, <i>Executive Chef, Crowne Plaza</i>	Big Whigs' Award Judges Dale Heydlauff, <i>American Electric Power</i> Rob Van Evra, <i>American Electric Power</i> Nick Dodson, <i>Anheuser-Busch, Inc.</i> Eric Rickabaugh, <i>Rickabaugh Graphics</i> Cherie McClain, <i>Ohio Lottery</i> Bob Kendrick, <i>ABC 6/FOX 28</i> Tomasso Ciaffoncini, <i>Origo Branding</i> David Emerson, <i>Sunny 95</i> Alan McKnight, <i>Columbus Recreation and Parks Department</i>
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Jazz & Rib Fest is produced by the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department and made possible through the generous support of American Electric Power, Bud Light, ABC 6 WSYX, FOX 28 WTE, Sunny 95 WSNY, The Ohio Lottery, Crowne Plaza, Arena Grand Movie Theater, Coca-Cola, Sunbelt Rentals, ASCAP, Cintas, Columbus Young Professionals, Hero USA, Kansas City Barbeque Society's Great American BBQ Tour, Planters Naturally Remarkable Tour, The Bite Tour, Fifth Third Band eBus, American Cornhole Organization, COSI, Columbus Crew and Columbus Blue Jackets.

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