# Cincinnati's Favorite Beer 2021 winner is ...

**Rasputin Todd** Cincinnati Enquirer



We got a winner. I said, <u>we got a winner!</u> The people have spoken. And they have spoken loud and clear. The winner of Cincinnati's Favorite Beer 2021 is (drumroll, please) ... the **Bohemian Special Brew** from Geo. Wiedemann Brewing Company, aka Wiedemann's Fine Beer. The 2021 newcomer to the bracket turned heads right away in the nomination round with the second-highest number of nomination votes overall, landing it as a No. 1 seed out of the gate. Go on, rookie!

In the first round, Wiedemann's Bohemian-style lager took on **No. 8 Roebling Vanilla Espresso** from Rivertown, winning that matchup with a convincing 730 to 524 vote score. In the Sweet 16 round, the Bohemian faced **No. 5 Vlad** from Fretboard and eked out at 566 to 501 victory. The next opponent, in the Elite 8, was **No. 2 You Betcha!** from Sonder, with Wiedemann's storming through with a 723 to 667 victory.

The Final Four brought this Special Brew its strongest opponent yet in **No. 1 Vanilla Cream** from Big Ash, a brewery that took the championship trophy home in 2020 with its Backbeat Coffee Blonde Ale. Wiedemann's took a nail-biting victory with a final score of 685 to 647.

The Finals matchup was a whole 'nother story. Someone lit a fire under Wiedemann's fanbase. With a vote total higher than any beer in any round this year, Bohemian Special Brew defeated **No. 2 Gavel Banger** from Taft's (the 2019 champ) with an astounding final score of 963 to 552. Absolutely impressive finish from the rookie beer.

A heartfelt congratulations and a big ol' CHEERS go out to the fine folks of Geo. Wiedemann Brewing Company; what a ride.

To all you readers out there, thanks for participating, voting and hopefully discovering some new beers and supporting local breweries along the way. It's been a blast.

To all the other breweries in the Cincinnati area, thanks for all the tasty challenges. We can't wait to see you soon. And our little fizzy bracket can't wait to see you next year. Cheers.







# THIRD EYE BREWERY INTRODUCES: ASTRAL PASTRY STOUT WITH MARSHMALLOW PEEPS, MAVERICK CHOCOLATE, VANILLA, AND LACTOSE 7.4% ABV 33 IBU

This luscious chocolate stout crashes into a ridiculous number of marshmallows. The stars of this brew are the usual Maverick Chocolate Company cocoa nibs and husks followed by a parade of Marshmallow Peep Bunnies during brewing. The sweet, gooey, marshmallow goodness counters the bittersweet chocolate for a decadent dessert beer.

# New bar opening bar at Findlay Market



Jane's, a new bar, will open in the Elm Street Esplanade in front of Findlay Market on April 1. JENN PRINE | COURIER

By Andy Brownfield - Staff Reporter, Cincinnati Business Courier Mar 26, 2021

A new bar will celebrate its grand opening at Findlay Market in Over-the-Rhine next week. The Corporation for Findlay Market will celebrate the grand opening of Jane's, a bar named for one of the founders of Ohio's oldest continually operating covered market, with a three-day party starting April 1.

Jane's will be operated by the Corporation for Findlay Market, with **Karrikin Spirits Co.**, a Fairfax brewery and distillery, serving as the key sponsor. The bar will stock Karrikin's brews on tap, alongside beers from **Northern Row Brewery & Distillery** and Braxton Brewing Co. and host a rotating craft beer series that will highlight new breweries every month. Jane's Bar replaces the Findlay Market Biergarten at the corner of Elm and Elder streets in the new Bunny's Plaza, a new area on the Elm Street Esplanade that was opened in 2020, but without fanfare amid Covid-19 restrictions.

Bunny's Plaza is named for Alvin "Bunny" Meisel, son of the owners of Globe Furniture, which was moved to what is now known as the Globe Building off of Findlay Market in 1955 amid the construction of Riverfront Stadium, which was being built at the location of the original furniture store.

Meisel remained an active part of Findlay Market, taking over the furniture store on his father's death in 1972 and serving on the Findlay Market Association and as a Grand Marshall of the Findlay Market Parade. He retired and sold the business in 2001. In another nod to history, Jane's takes its name from Market co-founder Jane Findlay, who alongside her husband Gen. James Findlay, founded Findlay Market, donating the land where the covered market was built after their deaths, stipulating that it must be used for a public market.

The three-day celebration of the opening of Jane's will include cocktail and beer specials, as well as the broadcast of the Reds Opening Day game on April 1, musical performances, and a press conference on April 2.



The 2021 New York International Beer Competition Names This Year's Winners

We've done it again. It's time for another competition, and time for some new hardware to come home to our Cincinnati breweries. This time we've got the New York International Beer Competition, which is a little different than some of the other competitions that are out there. The judging panel is made up of judges who work with beer on a daily basis as a mix of Restauranteurs, Cicerones, Sommeliers, Beer Buyers, Distributors, and Importers. The judging is based on the merits of the beer – and if the beer is something that the judges would sell in their respective fields.

Two breweries bring home 8 more medals in this batch – so the next time you find yourself out at the Lager House or Municipal Brew Works – give them a shout and a congrats!

## Moerlein Lager House

- · Ohio Brewery of the Year
- Gold Medal Barbarossa
- Gold Medal Saengerfest
- Gold Medal Barrel-Aged Baltic Porter
- Bronze Medal Lager House Helles

## Municipal Brew Works

- · Ohio Fruit Brewery of the Year
- Silver Medal Orange Agave Blonde
- Bronze Medal Long Slumber, Old Ale

## **Historic Brewery Tours Return!**

Guided walking tours return to Cincinnati's historic Brewery District along the Brewing Heritage Trail starting April 3, 2021. After a year's hiatus due to the COVID pandemic, the non-profit Brewery District Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation is re-launching its popular series of guided tours that share Cincinnati's brewing heritage. The walking tours travel through the Over-the-Rhine neighborhood and feature former breweries, saloons, lagering cellars, and tunnels that were all part of the history of beer making in the city. "Beer helped build this city and the stories of those days still resonate today," said Steve Hampton, executive director of the Brewery District CURC. "These tours make our brewing heritage come alive."

Tours have been adjusted to keep guests safe by keeping groups sizes small (under 10 guests), spend the majority of the tour outdoors, and having all guides and guests wear masks. There is also an option for an outdoor only tour.

#### **Tours are Scheduled Through the Summer and Include:**





Brewing high quality beer was an art form to many Cincinnati breweries and the buildings that housed their operations needed to be an extension of this passion. Come and witness the evolution of the brewing industry through the size, complexity, and architectural grandeur of the city's historic breweries.

Tours include a visit into the vast subterranean lager cellars of the historic (non-operating) Jackson Brewery.

#### **Brewers & Barons Tour**

Step into the past and discover the people who made brewing a cornerstone of the Queen City's history. Experience the places they worked, learn the dangers they faced, and the empires they built by producing America's best brews.

Tours include a visit into the subterranean lagering cellars and tunnels of the historic (non-operating) Schmidt Brothers / Crown Brewery.



### Brunch, Beer, & Breweries Tour



Delicious food and beer, accompanied by a modern and historic brewery tour, sign me up! Tour includes 6-8 beer samples and brunch. Starting with a behind-the-scenes tour of the Moerlein Lager House brewpub and the rich history showcased there, we catch a streetcar to the Brewery District and learn about Cincinnati's grand brewing history, complete with a visit into a subterranean lagering cellar of the historic (non-operating) Jackson Brewery.

UDF, Taft's Brewing shake things up in new collaboration



Taft's Brewing Co. and United Dairy Farmers Inc. have teamed up on a collaboration that makes its debut April 3. By Bill Cieslewicz – Managing editor, Cincinnati Business Courier Mar 31, 2021, 1:10pm EDT Taft's Brewing Co. and United Dairy Farmers Inc. have teamed up on a collaboration that makes its debut this weekend.

UDF Milkshake IPA is brewed with hops, lactose, oats and flaked wheat for a hoppy twist on a Cincinnati classic. Taft's will host an exclusive first taste noon-9 p.m. April 3 at its Brewpourium location at 4831 Spring Grove Ave., Spring Grove Village.

To secure a ticket to the event (\$6 includes pint), Only 50 tickets are available.

"We did not want to miss out on a fun opportunity for UDF to collaborate with Taft's on a signature product. So, when we learned about the novelty of Milkshake IPAs, we were all in," Jay Scherer, alcohol beverages category manager at UDF, said in a release.

The new beer will be available at all major and independent retailers, including UDF and Taft's locations in Greater Cincinnati, Columbus and Dayton, the week of April 5.

Taft's Ale House and Taft's Brewpourium will host events in April to celebrate the collaboration, including a milkshake pint night, mixology class and a themed brunch.