

Ohio Breweries Set New State Record at Great American Beer Festival

Thirteen of Ohio's independent craft breweries combine for 19 medals, including eight gold.

DENVER – Ohio's independent craft breweries brought home an impressive number of the industry's most prestigious awards at the 2023 [Great American Beer Festival](#) awards ceremony, held on [Saturday, September 23](#). The 19 medal haul smashes the previous Ohio record of 15, set in 2019.

[Third Eye Brewing](#) made a strong showing at this year's competition, earning three solo medals, a medal in the collaboration beer category – shared with [Narrow Path Brewing](#) – and the award for Brewery of the Year (1,001-2,000 barrels). The Sharonville brewery brought home gold for Chai Eye Captain in the Herb and Spice Beer category, another gold for Double Astral in the Chocolate Beer category, and a silver for Gourd Darn-it in the Pumpkin Beer category. Mounds of Importance, earning the collaboration silver medal, was inspired by Third Eye's Great American Beer Festival and World Beer Cup award-winning Higher Purpose milk stout and Narrow Path's U.S. Open Beer Championship medalist Coconut Porter.

[Narrow Path](#) earned their own solo medal at this year's competition for Restless Seas in the German-style Sour category. The beer also has earned a bronze award at the 2022 World Beer Cup.

Cincinnati's seemingly unstoppable [Brink Brewing](#) continued their medal streak with a gold for Lil Zoomie in the Coffee Stout or Porter category and a bronze for Moozie in the Sweet Stout or Cream Stout category. Brink has won at least one medal in each year of competition since the brewery's founding in 2017.

[Rhinegeist](#) took home top honors in the New Zealand India Pale Ale category with Kiwi (the Bird). This marks the brewery's third Great American Beer Festival medal, and first gold, since 2015.

Since 1987, 60 Ohio craft breweries have combined to win 202 medals – 70 gold – at the Great American Beer Festival. "Our independent breweries are proving without a doubt that Ohio is a top-tier destination for craft beer," said Mary MacDonald, executive director of the Ohio Craft Brewers Association. "From our perennial powerhouse breweries to our impressive young upstarts, you can find award winning, world-class beer all over the state."

GABF COMPETITION STATISTICS

- 37th edition of the GABF competition
- 9,298 beers judged
- 2,033 breweries in the competition from all 50 states plus Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico
- 250 judges
- 300+ volunteers
- Average number of competition beers entered in each category: 92
- Category with the highest number of entries: 65: Juicy or Hazy India Pale Ale (365)
- 303 total medals awarded
- 263 medal-winning breweries
- 325 first-time GABF entrants
- 16 first-time GABF winners

TOP 5 MOST-ENTERED STYLE CATEGORY WINNERS

Category 65: Juicy or Hazy India Pale Ale (365 entries) – Sponsored by Antigo Zeon

GOLD: Away Days | 1852 Brew Co. | Visalia, CA

SILVER: Juicy Mid-Tones | Corn Coast Brewing Co. | Lincoln, NE

BRONZE: Make It Rain | Side Hustle Brewing Co. | Hilton Head Island, SC

Category 66: West Coast-Style India Pale Ale (301 entries)

GOLD: Westbound Select | Westbound & Down Brewing Co. | Idaho Springs, CO

SILVER: Untold Prophecy | Slice Beer Co. | Lincoln, CA

BRONZE: Bright Side IPA | Uprise Brewing Co. | Spokane, WA

Category 36: Light Lager (284 entries)

GOLD: Nashville Light | Nashville Brewing Co. | Nashville, TN

SILVER: Mexican Lager | Lone Tree Brewing Co. | Lone Tree, CO

BRONZE: Legendary Lager | MadTree Brewing | Cincinnati, OH

Category 45: German-Style Pilsener (228 entries) – Sponsored by Tripleseat

GOLD: Prodigal Pils | Lazarus Brewing Co.-Laz 2 | Austin, TX

SILVER: Prost Pilsner | Prost Brewing Co. | Denver, CO

BRONZE: Don't Fear The Answer | Tenma Beer Project | Oakland, CA

Category 64: American-Style India Pale Ale (206 entries) – Sponsored by Micro Matic

GOLD: Head Hunter | Fat Head's Brewery & Saloon | North Olmsted, OH

SILVER: Breakside IPA | Breakside Brewery & Taproom | Milwaukie, OR

BRONZE: Downtown Tom | Three Mile Brewing Co. | Davis, CA

MOST-MEDALED BREWERY Third Eye Brewing Co. | Sharonville, OH 4 Medals

GOLD: Herb and Spice Beer (Cat.7)

GOLD: Chocolate Beer (Cat. 8)

SILVER: Pumpkin Beer (Cat. 5)

SILVER: Collaboration Competition

COLLABORATION COMPETITION (95 entries)

GOLD: Luna Mexican Export Lager | Cheluna Brewing Co. & Prost Brewing Co.

SILVER: Mounds of Importance | Third Eye Brewing Co. & Narrow Path Brewing Co.

BRONZE: Two's Daze | Attic Brewing Co. & Two Locals Brewing Co.

PRO-AM COMPETITION (50 entries) Sponsored by Briess Malt & Ingredients, Country Malt Group, and White Labs

GOLD: She Fancies Herself A Little Bit French | Coopersmith's Pub & Brewing and Mark Pennick

SILVER: Rob's Baltic Porter | New Belgium Brewing Co. and Rob Hardisty

BRONZE: What Is That? | Decipher Brewing Co. and Joel Miller



2023 medal-winning Cincinnati craft beers:

Third Eye Brewing

- Chai Eye Captain – Gold – Herb and Spice Beer
- Double Astral – Gold – Chocolate Beer
- Gourd Darn-it – Silver – Pumpkin Beer

Brink Brewing

- Lil Zoomie – Gold – Coffee Stout or Porter
- Moozie – Bronze – Sweet Stout or Cream Stout

Rhinegeist

- Kiwi (The Bird) – Gold – New Zealand India Pale Ale

Narrow Path Brewing

- Restless Seas – Silver – German Sour Ale

MadTree Brewing Company

- Legendary Lager – Bronze – Light Lager

Narrow Path/Third Eye

- Mounds of Importance – Silver – Collaboration Beer

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work

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A Strong Showing

Since 1987, 60 Ohio craft breweries have combined to win a total of 202 medals – including 70 gold medals – at the Great American Beer Festival.

“Our independent breweries are proving without a doubt that Ohio is a top-tier destination for craft beer,” said Mary MacDonald, executive director of the [Ohio Craft Brewers Association](#). “From our perennial powerhouse breweries to our impressive young upstarts, you can find award winning, world-class beer all over the state.”

2023 medal-winning Ohio craft beers:

- Fat Head's Brewery
 - Alpenglow – Gold – German Wheat Ale
 - Goggle Fogger – Gold – South German-Style Hefeweizen
 - Head Hunter – Gold – American-Style India Pale Ale
- Third Eye Brewing
 - Chai Eye Captain – Gold – Herb and Spice Beer
 - Double Astral – Gold – Chocolate Beer
 - Gourd Darn-it – Silver – Pumpkin Beer
- Brink Brewing
 - Lil Zoomie – Gold – Coffee Stout or Porter
 - Moozie – Bronze – Sweet Stout or Cream Stout
- Hoppin' Frog Brewery
 - Smashing Honey Blonde – Gold – Honey Beer
- Rhinegeist
 - Kiwi (The Bird) – Gold – New Zealand India Pale Ale
- The Brew Brothers
 - Toasty – Silver – English Mild or Bitter
- Eudora Brewing
 - Daytonian Rhapsody – Silver – Bohemian-Style Pilsener
- Inside the Five Brewing
 - Megaphone – Silver – Irish-Style Red Ale
- Narrow Path Brewing
 - Restless Seas – Silver – German Sour Ale
- Noble Creature Wild Ales & Lagers
 - Earth & Aether – Silver – Belgian-Style Sour Ale
- Seventh Son Brewing
 - Stone Fort – Silver – English-Style Brown Ale
- MadTree Brewing Company
 - Legendary Lager – Bronze – Light Lager
- Royal Docks Brewing
 - Pumpkin slayer – Bronze – Pumpkin Beer
- Narrow Path/Third Eye
 - Mounds of Importance – Silver – Collaboration Beer



St. Cecilia



Join us the evening of Saturday, September 30, immediately following the 3:30 pm Mass for our favorite fall tradition: Oktoberfest! Dig out those dirndls and lederhosen from your closets and don them while sipping on the finest of beers, feasting on sauerkraut and bratwurst, and enjoying the musical stylings of our ever-popular German band. Need to burn off those calories? Try playing one of our many games around the campus, all while supporting the parish through "split the pot." The fun concludes at 10 pm, but not without first enjoying a piece of delicious streudel or a mountainous cream puff to cap off the night!

Bring your friends, bring your family, and bring your appetite for this epic night celebrating our German heritage!



SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 30 | 4:30-10 PM



3105 Madison Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45209



Photo: provided by Andrew Mcleese

[Brink Brewing Co. Makers Mart](#)

When: Sept. 30 at 10 a.m.

Where: Brink Brewing Company, College Hill

What: Annual arts market with live music, local vendors, and beer.

Who: Brink Brewing and local artists

Why: This year's market has more vendors than ever before and live music. It's a chance to support local makers and maybe find some early holiday presents (or just treat yourself).



Photo: Brittany Thornton

Ludlow Flea and Craft Fair

When: Oct. 1 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Where: Bircus Brewing Company, Ludlow

What: A collection of talent representing all genres of art featured as a monthly market.

Who: Ludlow Flea presented by Bircus Brewing Co.

Why: Not only will there be art for sale, but also Pizza, Beer, and Bloody Mary's.





Astra Hard Seltzer brings home 3 medals from the US Open Hard Seltzer Championship

CINCINNATI - Astra Hard Seltzer made by March First Brewing brought home 3 medals from the largest hard seltzer competition in the country this week. They earned a silver medal for their Red Cream Soda Hard Seltzer in the Cherry Category, a silver for Crush in the Orange Category and a bronze medal for Birch Beer in the Anything Goes Category.

This is the 3rd year in a row March First and Astra has brought medals home from the US Open Hard Seltzer Championship. "We take pride in producing seltzers that people actually enjoy drinking at Astra," Josh Engel said. "Bringing home medals 3 years in a row motivates us to keep innovating and coming out with new flavors that our customers will love. We have a lot of fun stuff coming down the pipeline"

You can get Astra in most retailers around Cincinnati as well as at March First Brewing in Blue Ash and on Fountain Square, FigLeaf Brewing in Middletown, Woodburn Brewing in East Walnut Hills, and Cincinnati Distilling in Milford.

About March First Brewing:

March First Brewing is an innovative craft brewery based in Cincinnati, Ohio, known for pushing the boundaries of brewing traditions. Committed to producing exceptional craft beverages, March First Brewing creates a diverse range of products, including beers, spirits, seltzers, and more. With a relentless pursuit of quality, creativity, and customer satisfaction, March First Brewing continues to be a leader in the craft beverage industry.

