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BEER



Discover new brews at Art of Beer 2020
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A Winter Beer Fest

January doldrums got you down? You need a Friday night—specifically one that involves craft beer and fine art.

Art of Beer, now in its eighth

year, was the brainchild of Rawi Nanakul, whose passions are beer and photography. In those early years, the event saw about 200 participants, a figure that has exploded exponentially as the craft beer movement in our region has taken off, and crowds now surpass 1,500.

“It’s really been fun to see it evolve over the years,” said Lindsey Nelson, co-owner and marketing director for the event. “Now we’ve involved local farm-to-fork restaurants and local artists.”

Not to mention the real draw: 36 breweries, including Crooked Lane, Fifty Fifty, REVISION, and South Lake Brewing Co. There are also several new breweries this year: Barebottle and Sufferfest (San Francisco), Slice Beer (Lincoln), Dunloe (Davis) and Cooperage (Santa Rosa). “Some are local, some are SoCal, some are from up

north,” she said. “But the brewers use this to showcase new beer, or some trend they see coming up in 2020.”

One trend predicted to continue is an increasing interest in food pairings, and there will be plenty of examples at this event. “You can really learn about food and beer and how they work together,” said Nelson. For example, Moksa Brewing Co. will pair with food from Localis, and King Cong Brewing Co will team up with Husick’s Taphouse.

Also fun, said Nelson, are rare releases throughout the night. “You hear the air horn and line up at the stage—you never know when it’s coming,” she said. “There is some really awesome beer served.”

Finally, don’t miss the art component, which can be simply admired as you taste, or bid on in a silent auction, and includes paintings and drawings, as well 3D conversation pieces, such as metal fireplaces and tables made from wooden barrels.

Proceeds go to this year’s cause, Make-A-Wish Northeastern & Central California and Northern Nevada. “We have a passion for working for children and we hope to raise enough money to grant a wish for a child,” Nelson said.

BY THEA MARIE ROOD

ART OF BEER

Friday, Jan. 24, 5:30-10 p.m.
(5:30-7 p.m. is VIP hour), McClellan
Conference Center, 5411 Luce Ave.,
McClellan Park, CA. Tickets for unlimited
tastings and food pairings are VIP \$70,
General Admission \$60 (buy in advance
at artofbeerinvitational.com).

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