

# Sold-Out Top Taco Fest Raises \$20K+ For One Heart NOLA

BY 3-28-17



**Top Taco Festival presented by Paddlewheeler Creole Queen, Thursday, March 23**

TOP TACO APRES PHOTOS

NEW ORLEANS – On Thursday, March 23, more than 3,000 charity-minded taco and tequila lovers gathered at Riverwalk’s Spanish Plaza for the inaugural Top Taco Festival presented by Paddlewheeler Creole Queen. The inaugural culinary and cocktail competition, which featured 40 of New Orleans’ top chefs and mixologists, raised more than \$20,000 to support One Heart NOLA’s work to raise awareness and funds for the city’s foster children.

Event judges and attendees voted on favorites in four categories:

## JUDGES’ CHOICE

### TRADITIONAL TACO

- 1st Place – Taqueria Chilangos
- 2nd Place – Canal Street Bistro
- 3rd Place – Felipe’s Taqueria

### CREATIVE TACO

- 1st Place – Blue Oak BBQ
- 2nd Place – Kingfish
- 3rd Place – La Casita

### TRADITIONAL MARGARITA

- 1st Place – Mizado
- 2nd Place – Johnny Sanchez
- 3rd Place – Carreta’s

### CREATIVE TEQUILA COCKTAIL

- 1st Place – Mizado
- 2nd Place – Del Fuego
- 3rd Place – Butcher

## PEOPLE’S CHOICE

### TRADITIONAL TACO

- 1st Place – Taqueria Chilangos
- 2nd Place – Tequila House
- 3rd Place – Felipe’s Taqueria

### CREATIVE TACO

- 1st Place – Johnny Sanchez
- 2nd Place – The Rum House
- 3rd Place – Velvet Cactus

### TRADITIONAL MARGARITA

- 1st Place – Johnny Sanchez
- 2nd Place – Mizado
- 3rd Place – Nacho Mama’s

### CREATIVE TEQUILA COCKTAIL

- 1st Place – Tequila House
- 2nd Place – Masquerade
- 3rd Place – Barcadia

### ULTIMATE TOP TACO

- Taqueria Chilangos

Guests also enjoyed a silent auction and live entertainment by Muevelo, Los Poboycitos and Otra. This year’s after party took place a stone’s throw away at Barcadia, where Chefs and participants enjoyed libations into the wee hours.

Top Taco Judges included Jose Ralat, Alon Shaya, Ian McNulty, Abigail Gullo, Liz Williams, Emily Coleman, Frank Brigtsen, Andrew Marin, Dominique Macquet, Bryan Dias, Charles Divins, Michael Durbin, Alessandra Madrid and Maggie Robert, Leroy Mitchell, Aaron Wilkinson, Councilman Jason Rogers Williams, Linda Green/Yakamein Lady, Hank Staples and Sal Agnello.