

# Capitola Art & Wine Fest marks milestone

Events

30th annual event is this weekend

9-7-12



CONTRIBUTED

Aptos printmaker Liz Lyons Friedman with the poster she created for the 2012 Capitola Art & Wine Festival.

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CAPITOLA — Organizers of the 30th Annual Capitola Art & Wine Festival, taking place 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in Capitola Village, are going all out to make sure this year's event will be a memorable one.

"We have the perfect location, down by the beach in a quaint village," said Toni Castro of the Capitola-Soquel Chamber of Commerce, which puts on the festival fundraiser with the help of 400 volunteers.

"It's such a fun event and it's the last hurrah of the summer," added Carrie Arnone of the chamber.

This has been a year of milestones in Capitola, with the Wharf to Wharf Race marking 40 years in July and

the Begonia Festival celebrating 60 years on Labor Day weekend.

This weekend, the festival started by Carrie Jacobson May, Barbara Reding and Eric Johnson will enjoy its 30-year anniversary.

More than 150 artists will participate, with 21 Santa Cruz Mountains wineries offering tasting, crafts for children, and local musical favorites The Coffis Brothers and Extra Large plus the Sam Morrison Band and The Fundamentals.

This year's poster features the work of Aptos printmaker Liz Lyons Friedman. If her graphic style looks familiar, it should be no surprise. This is her second time to be selected by the Capitola Art & Wine Festival and she's a five-time Begonia Festi-

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## FESTIVAL

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val poster artist.

Participating wineries include Alfaro Family Vineyards, Barretto Winery, Beauregard Vineyards, Bruzzone Family Vineyards, Burrell School Vineyards & Winery, Chaucer's Cellars, Cinnabar Winery, Domenico Winery, Hallcrest Vineyards & Organic Wine Works, Heart O' The Mountain, Hunter Hill Vineyard & Winery, Martin Ranch Winery, Naumann Vineyards, Nicholson Vineyards, Pelican Ranch Winery, Roudon-Smith Winery, Silver Mountain Vineyards, Storrs Winery, Thomas Fogarty Winery & Vineyards, Trout Gulch Vineyard and Zayante Vineyards.

Festival admission is free; a wineglass costs \$8, and tastings cost \$2-4.

There's no need to go hungry with 21 food booths featuring the best from local restaurants and caterers.

The choices include honey-infused burgers and ribs, artichokes, crab cakes, steak sandwiches, crab-stuffed mushrooms, deep fried ravioli, coconut milk soup, falafel, rice bowls, crepes and Greek, Indian and Mexican fare.

This year's food participants include Artichoke Connection, Café Carlos, Café Cruz, Central Fire Protection District Paid Call BBQ, Crown Cafe Catering, Delk Bees Honey Café, E & J Catering, Falafel of Santa Cruz, Gooses Goodies, Grandma Catherine's Homemade Meatloaf, India Gourmet, Michael's on Main, Pizza Gypsy, Rainbow Girls BBQ, Simply Sue's Kitchen, Souza's Ice Cream, Surf City Kiwanis Calamari, Surf City Distributing Frozen Fruit Juice Bars, Sweet Pea's Café, Taste of Mexico and True Olive Connection.

In fact, the festival has grown to the point that there is a waiting list for restaurant and wineries to participate.

The two-day event is the chamber's largest fundraiser, bringing in \$90,000 to support activities to promote local businesses.

"It keeps our doors open," Castro said.

Over the years, the festival has \$180,000 for community groups, she noted.

For example, members of the Soquel High School water polo teams will come out to help set up tents and take them down and in turn receive a donation from the festival. The teams will also receive a check from Alexis Party Rentals for their assistance.

Other groups that will benefit include the Soquel High School softball team and the Soquel Music Foundation, which supports the band and choral music programs at Soquel High.

With 40,000 people expected to attend this year, the chamber recommends visitors take advantage of shuttle service available at two locations. The shuttle will run from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday and 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday at the Capitola Mall, 1855 41st Ave., and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. both days at the Crossroads Center on Bay Avenue.

Metered parking is available at Pacific Cove, 426 Capitola Ave. Bikes and pets are not allowed at the festival but there will be free valet parking at the corner of Capitola and Stockton avenues.

For information, go to [www.capitolachamber.com](http://www.capitolachamber.com).