

The Million Dollar Question

BY AMANDA SCHURR

So... what are you doing New Year's Eve?

All dressed up and no place to go come the big night of 12 o'clock snogging, falling orbs and "Auld Lang Syne"? Look no further than your favorite neighborhood spot. Leave the uncorking to them and join the party.

Starky's, 2913 SE Stark St., 503-230-7980 or starkys.com

Wind down 2011 with a night of live piano music and tasty, special menu grub, plus a champagne toast at midnight (natch). Be sure to make reservations for dinner, as this isn't the usual Sunday night Stark Raving Queens revue.

Darcelle XV Showplace, 208 NW Third Ave., 503-222-5338 or darcellexv.com

Darcelle XV presents the 45th annual New Year's Eve Extravaganza, with all the lights, glamour and action you can blow your noise-maker at. A dinner-and-show package starting at 7:30 p.m. runs \$65 a person, with a cocktail package beginning at 9 p.m. costing \$45 each. Packages include champagne and a midnight breakfast buffet.

CC Slaughters, 219 NW Davis St., 503-248-9135 or ccslaughterspdx.com

It's ball-dropping time at CCs—Platinum Ball-dropping time, that is, with your host Bolivia Carmichaels and featuring DJ Robb. A \$10 cover gets you complimentary bubbly at midnight. We're just gonna say it one more time: *Bablll*.

Red Cap Garage, 1035 SW Stark St., 503-226-4171 or redcapgarage.com

Ring in a Queer New Year to benefit the Portland Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. From 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., Genderf**king Take-over presents this party hosted by Carla Rossi with deejays Ray Gun (from San Diego) and LunchLady (from Los Angeles) plus special guests. The \$3 cover includes a midnight champagne toast, plus go-go dancers, JELLO shots, a special "iced" photobooth and "cheap and strong drink specials."

Scandals, 1125 SW Stark St., 503-227-5887 or scandalspdx.com

Pop next door from Red Cap for Scandals' third annual "Lavish" affair to benefit Esther's Pantry. Doors open at 7 p.m. with live music at 9 by Funkcaucus, an all-star band featuring Holly Cole, midnight bubbly toast, silent auc-

tion, giveaways and more. Admission is \$10 at the door; the event runs until 2 a.m.

Café Nell, 1987 NW Kearney, 503-295-6487 or cafenell.com

After the Northwest bistro's usual Saturday brunch, Nell goes New Year's with a champagne happy hour (5-7 p.m.), one dinner seating (7:30 p.m.) and a burlesque party from 9:30 p.m. to late. Reservations are required, with the \$13 admission covering a complimentary champagne toast, deejay and entertainment.

Crave at Crush Bar, 1400 SE Morrison St., "Crave DanceParty" on Facebook

Celebrate Crave's third anniversary with a New Year's Eve "Glitterati" Party featuring deejays Alicious (Los Angeles) and Lindsay Guinan (San Francisco) spinning top 40, electro, hip-hop and indie. Come dressed to impress for go-go dancers, laser lights and video, a glitter balloon drop at midnight and more. Arrive before 10 p.m. for reduced admission (\$6) and score \$2 well drinks from 8 to 10 p.m., cover is \$8 thereafter; the party runs until 2 a.m.

The Original Dinerant, 300 SW Sixth Ave., 503-546-2666 or originaldinerant.com

Ring in 2012 with a Studio 54-inspired disco bash upstairs in The Original's window-lined retro-luxe party loft. Tickets are \$40 each and include a dessert buffet, two cocktails and champagne; \$10 from each ticket goes to Ecotrust's Food+Farms Program. The evening runs 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

Oh, your December 31 is already taken? Well how 'bout we get together for one of these other holiday highlights?

Fri., Dec. 9, 9 p.m.-midnight at the Eagle Portland, 835 N. Lombard—Party Zodiac: Hard Candy Christmas: Celebrate the poor man's Christmas with a beer bust and live entertainment, Santa photos with Mr. Oregon



State Leather 2011, a Sexy Santa contest with cash prizes, a performance by the Portland Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and more.

Sun., Dec. 11, 5-8 p.m. at Darcelle XV Showplace—Silver Bells: An evening of holiday glamour hosted by La Femme Magnifique Oregon 2011 Heavenly Bliss, La Femme Magnifique Plus Oregon 2011 Kelly Johanna and Mistress of Ceremonies, The First of the Rose, Her Most Imperial Majesty, Rose Empress LIII The Legendary Monica Boulevard (whew!). A \$10 donation will benefit Bradley Angle and Esther's Pantry.

Sun., Dec. 11, 6-10 p.m. at Red Cap Garage—Toys in Candyland, A Benefit for the Make a Wish Foundation: Ecstasy Inferno and Red Cap present this "not to miss" holiday show promising Kertie St. James Dupont, Christmas trees, mistletoe, "liquor, sex, drugs, prostitution, peeps, reindeer, drummer boys," and drag queens. All that, plus raffles, games, a photobooth and performances by Nico Bella, Saturn, Fannie Mae Darling and more. Suggested donation cover is \$5, or \$2 with two cans of food.

Sun., Dec. 11, 7:30-10 p.m. at Kelly's Olympian, 426 SW Washington—Phoenix Variety Revue: Chrismahanukwan-zakah: Prepare your stocking for performanc-

es by Angelique DeVil, Zora Von Pavonine and Satheara Sin, plus ho-ho-holiday humor by MC Zora Phoenix and the pinup art of Karina Dale. Cover is \$7.

Thurs., Dec. 15, 8-11 p.m. at Red Cap Garage—Portland Idol's Holiday Harmonies: Celebrate the season through song with your favorite contestants from Portland Idol Seasons 1 and 2, hosted by Poison Waters. No cover.

Fri., Dec. 16, 8 p.m. at Alberta Rose Theater, 3000 NE Alberta St.; \$10-\$20 sliding scale at albertarosetheatre.com—A Winter Evening with Holcombe Waller and special guests Ritchie Young (Loch Lomond), Danny Seim and Justin Harris (Menomena) and singer-songwriter Alina Hardin

Sat., Dec. 17, noon at Mission Theatre, 1624 NW Glisan—2011 Portland Santacon: Get ho-ho-housed at a pub crawl of 10 area drinking establishments, beginning at the Mission with a screening of *Bad Santa* and winding up sometime around last call at the Star Theater for a snowball fight. Deejays, dancing, live bands and more. Dress naughty or nice. There's no cover.

Sat., Dec. 17, 6-10 p.m. at Cuda Beach Club, 9 NW Second Ave.—Inferno Holiday Dance: It's ladies night with DJ Rockaway and more entertainment. Cover is \$8.

Sat., Dec. 17, 8:30-11:30 p.m. at Crush Bar—Burlesque: Holidaze Showcase! Burlesque and boylesque all wrapped up for your enjoyment, from the boys of Burlesquire to Sophie Maltease and Bayou Bettie, plus music by Kevin Hardy. Cover is \$7.

Sun., Dec. 18, 6 p.m. at The Spare Room, 4830 NE 42nd—The 13th Annual NW Women Rhythm and Blues Christmas Concert: Sonny Hess and Musicians for the Cure are back with this benefit for children with cancer and their families. Tickets, \$16, are available by calling 503-319-1333 or at sonnyhess.com.

Tues., Dec. 20, 8 p.m. (7 p.m. doors) at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall, 1037 SW Broadway, \$30-\$84 via Ticketmaster or 800-745-3000—Pink Martini Holiday Celebration featuring legendary Japanese singer Saori Yuki and special guests.

Girls Nite Out

at the
Chameleon

DJ Gino Mari spins for the ladies
Every First Saturday
10:00 p.m.-Late
\$5 cover / 21+

Chameleon Restaurant & Bar
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503.460.2682
chameleonpdx.com

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