

BEST BARISTA

Kristy Cross, The Rusty Cup

ASTORIA

By BRENNA VISSER

Runner-up: Chloe Cox-Brown, The Rusty Cup, Astoria**Honorable mention:** Melissa Cutting, ROOTS Juice, Java, and Salad Bar, Ilwaco, Wash.

Even seven years of winning Best Barista, Kristy Cross, owner of The Rusty Cup in Astoria, can't put her finger on the secret to her success.

"I really don't do anything out of the ordinary," Cross laughed.

Perhaps it's her relationship with customers, whom she was serving and



Brenna Visser


Kristy Cross of The Rusty Cup has won Best Barista in Readers' Choice seven years in a row.

greeting by name while she considered the question. One customer sitting in the shop offered that it was because she is good at "keeping them in line."

Whatever the reason, it's an honor she takes seriously. "I'm excited, because there's a lot of talent out there," she said.

Cross opened the shop on Commercial Street in

May 2004, and ever since has worked to cultivate a "family feel." In addition to its reputation for a good cup of coffee, the shop also offers soups, wraps, sandwiches and baked goods.

"I really do love this job. It's like you get to hang out with your friends all day long," Cross said. "I really am grateful." 

BEST SERVER

Kendall Padgett-McEuen, Astoria Coffeehouse & Bistro

ASTORIA

By EDWARD STRATTON

Runner-up: Don Porter, The Depot, Long Beach, Wash.**Honorable mention:** Michelle Pierce, Doogers Seafood & Grill, Warrenton

Kendall Padgett-McEuen, who works at Astoria Coffeehouse & Bistro, is repeating as Reader's Choice's Best Server.

Padgett-McEuen won last year as a server at the Bistro's younger sister restaurant, Carruthers, where she worked since its opening in August 2016 and her husband Wade was sous chef. For the past nine months, she has exclusively been with the Bistro, where her husband is now head chef.

"It's very surprising, and I'm incredibly honored and grateful," Padgett-McEuen said of the honor. "I don't suppose any of my tactics



Edward Stratton


Kendall Padgett-McEuen, a server at Astoria Coffeehouse & Bistro, won the Readers' Choice award for Best Server.

have changed."

She shares the winner's circle with Cory Teubner, who took home Reader's Choice's Best Bartender honors. Padgett-McEuen credits she and her coworkers' popularity with the owners allowing employees to be themselves.

"I believe that the encouragement to be ourselves and interact and react is unlike a lot of other establishments," she said. "There

isn't a script. It's very candid. I think people can see that and appreciate that there are real people interacting with them."

Padgett-McEuen moved to Astoria as a teenager from Santa Cruz, California. She moved to Seattle for several years before returning about 11 years ago to Astoria, where she met her husband. Before Carruthers, she worked at T Paul's Urban Cafe. 

The Illahee Apartments



Thank you
for voting us the
Best Apartments



1046 Grand Avenue
Astoria, OR 97103

503-325-2280

Pacific Family Medicine

Katherine Merrill, MD & Angela Nairn, MD



We are honored to be chosen as two of the top five local physicians in the Coast Weekend Reader's Choice Awards.

It has been our privilege to care for local families over the last 18 years, and we look forward to continuing for many years to come.

Warmest regards,
Dr. Katherine Merrill &
Dr. Angela Nairn

2055 EXCHANGE ST., STE. 190, ASTORIA • (503)325-5300

Thank you for voting us
Best Barista
7 years in a row!!



1213 Commercial St., Astoria
503-325-8265