

SCRATCHPAD

Readers' Choice honors the coast's best

By **ALYSSA EVANS**
COAST WEEKEND EDITOR



This week's edition of Coast Weekend is a special one, as it celebrates the 2019 Readers' Choice Awards.

In January, the contest received more than 9,900 nominations from about 1,300 people. Nominations determined the businesses, dining options and activities that would later be voted on.

Voting was open between late January

and mid-February. During this time, about 4,000 people participated, sending in a total of more than 47,000 votes.

Looking at the numbers, it's clear that many nominees were chosen by multiple people. This sentiment was carried through the contest's voting period, as most voters participated daily.

Many of this year's contest winners will be familiar to readers. For example, Kristy Cross has won her eighth year as best barista. And in Seaview, the ever-famous The Depot Restaurant has once again won a handful of awards.

our coast weekend

ON THE COVER

Ben Thompson
in Blaylock's
Whiskey Bar.

PHOTO BY
HAILEY HOFFMAN/
THE ASTORIAN



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Award winners aren't limited to previous winners, though. As you'll see throughout this edition, many businesses, servers, dining options and activities are first-time winners in their respective categories. Some new winners worth noting include Blaylock's Whiskey Bar, Brut

Wine Bar, The Chowder Stop and Cross-Fit 1811.

Regardless of whether a winner is being featured for the first time this year or the fifth, each nomination, vote and winner plays an incremental role on the coast.

As former Coast Weekend editor Erick Bengel said, everyone who contributes to our community and strives to perfect their piece of the coast is a winner. Thank you to all who participated in this year's contest.

A complete listing of winners, runners-up and honorable mentions are on pages 16-17.

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AMERICA'S CHOICE

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