

2022 Excellence in Downtown Albany Awards

On August 29, Albany Downtown Association members, volunteers and community partners gathered at Albany Civic Theater for a night of fun and recognition.

The Excellence in Downtown Albany Awards honor the people and businesses that are putting their time, money, and/or influence into making our Downtown a more vibrant place to live, work and do business.

Nominations were submitted by ADA members, and the winners were selected by our award committee. Check out our website for event photos and an extended article featuring the nomination text for all the amazing nominees, www.albanydowntown.com/news.

Some of our awards are a part of a statewide award program, the Oregon Main Street Excellence in Revitalization Awards. Those awardees are invited to attend the award ceremony on October 5 at the OMS Conference in Klamath Falls.

Here are the awards with comments from the nomination submissions:



Business of the Year

This award is designed to recognize the innovation, dedication and entrepreneurial spirit displayed by our entrepreneurs and small businesses.

Winner: Emma Downtown
- “An intricate part of Downtown for over 22 years, they support the ADA through membership, keeping a positive image and being a positive draw for other businesses.”
- “They are constantly encouraging other businesses to open and come to Albany, and they started and are carrying on the tradition of the annual ‘Downtown Unwrapped’ event.”
- “Owner Peggy Udolf served on the ADA board when they passed the city’s first EID. She was instrumental in a lot of what you see on our streetscape from the flower baskets and snowflakes to the park benches and trash receptacles.”
- “They have pride in their shop and are always putting in maximum effort in all displays, customer service, community support and keeping things fresh and appealing.”

Additional Nominees:

- Novak’s Hungarian Restaurant
- Sweet Red Bistro
- Ba’s Vietnamese Comfort Food

New Business of the Year

This award is designed to recognize the innovation, dedication and entrepreneurial spirit displayed by our entrepreneurs and new small businesses.

Winner: The Squeaky Cork

- “The space is beautiful, the food and drink are delicious, the staff is attentive and friendly and they are already working on expanding.”
- “Offers something new to Downtown and they’ve done a great job with the exterior and improving the whole block.”
- “Creates another opportunity for visitors to experience the genuine hospitality and authenticity of historic Albany. They are warm and inviting, quality food, great bev-



Photo by Katharine Gutierrez Photography

erages and amazing service.”
- “Fulfilling a lifetime dream of having this business, the owners and family have created a very charming establishment.”
- “The atmosphere is warm and cozy. This restaurant is like nothing else in downtown Albany or probably anywhere else in the Willamette Valley.”
- “The staff is welcoming and knowledgeable, and the food is really delicious. Customers truly enjoy themselves. Trying new and unique offerings is fun, and returning to have your favorite entree is comforting.”
- “It is wonderful to see more businesses opening on the other side of Ellsworth, expanding the vibrant Downtown core.”

Additional Nominees:

- The Brim Coffee Co.
- Jinda Thai
- Stoked 2 Sk8

Growth Business of the Year

The winner demonstrates clear business growth in terms of customer base and profitability over recent years. This business is ambitious and future-facing. They have clear objectives and a plan to achieve them. This is for rising stars, whatever the company size or activity.

Winner: Margin Coffee Roasters

- “This business recently expanded their production with a second location in Albany, providing six more jobs, and offering more products for the community. The process kept jobs and profits local and they strive to provide quality products to the community directly through dine-in or carry-out options as well as wholesale accounts, serving local businesses with high-quality coffee and related training.”

Additional Nominees:

- Merrime Bridal
- Natural Sprinkles Co.
- Pure Beauty Aesthetics

Best Business Organized Event

This business went above and beyond in organizing their own event that attracted customers to not only their business but other businesses in Downtown Albany.

Winner: Gallery Calapooia

- “First Friday started with this business and has grown to include several downtown businesses.”
- “The month of February is when this business hosts an annual event, the ‘Big Show of Little Art.’ The first show brought over

Turn to page 4



Fall Volunteers Needed

Hanging Baskets - Sun., Sept 18

On Sunday, September 18 we will say goodbye to summer and take down our hanging baskets. Grab your gloves and meet at the ADA office at 9 am to take down baskets. We need 4 teams of 3 volunteers to remove the baskets and bring them to Two Rivers Market, plus 5-6 volunteers to clean the soil out of the pots. We’ll be finished by noon and enjoy some treats.

Downtown Clean-Up - Sun., Oct 9

On Sunday, October 9 join us to pull summer weeds, add bark dust and clean up downtown. Meet at the ADA office at 9 am for clean-up assignments.

Please RSVP to volunteer by calling or texting (541) 905-2908.



Contractor Permits

Contractors working in Downtown Albany are required to obtain a Contractor Permit from ParkWise. They can be obtained at the ParkWise office or self-serve online after a one-time registration by phone.

Contractor Permits allow ParkWise to provide parking options, help manage the number of vehicles in a given block and to contact contractors directly if a need arises for vehicles to be moved.

Each month ParkWise awards a month of free parking to a leased space or employee permit holder.

Our September parking winner is...

Rebecca Benham

Linn County Health Services

Downtown Events - September 2022

Saturdays - Albany Farmers’ Market

Each week head to the Albany Farmers’ Market for fresh local produce, meats, baked goods, seafood, plants, flowers and more. Hours: 9 am-1 pm in the Albany City Hall parking lot (corner of 4th & Ellsworth). www.locallygrown.com

Saturdays - Albany Alley

Each week head to Albany Alley to grab a table and enjoy an open-air meal under the umbrellas. Visit our Downtown’s 25 restaurants, cafes, bakeries and Albany Framers’ Market to find a great selection of take-out options. Open Saturdays 9 am-10 pm plus on 1st Friday in Historic Downtown Albany from 4-10 pm through early September.

Friday, Sept 2 - 1st Friday in Historic Downtown Albany

Bring your friends Downtown for some 1st Friday fun! Look for sales, tasting, music & more. Visit Albany Alley to enjoy a take-out meal under the lights (4-10 pm). See Facebook for info.

Saturday, Sept 3 - 1st Annual Albany Downtown Block Party

Country recording artist Nate Smith headlines this new event. See story page 4.

Saturday, Sept 10 - Antiques in the Streets & Classic Car Show

This annual event runs from 8 am - 4 pm between 1st and 4th streets in Historic Downtown Albany. See story page 1.

Sept 16-Oct 1 - ACT presents Moon over Buffalo

In the madcap comedy tradition of Lend Me a Tenor, Albany Civic Theater presents the hilarious Moon Over Buffalo. The play centers on George and Charlotte Hay, fading stars of the 1950s. At the moment, they’re playing Private Lives and Cyrano De Bergerac in rep in Buffalo, New York with five actors. On the brink of a disastrous split-up caused by George’s dalliance with a young ingénue, they receive word that they might just have one last shot at stardom: Frank Capra is coming to town to see their matinee, and if he likes what he sees, he might cast them in his movie remake of The Scarlet Pimpernel. Unfortunately for George and Charlotte, everything that could go wrong does go wrong. Performances: Sep. 16, 17, 23, 24, 25 (m), 29, 30, Oct. 1. Tickets are available at www.albanycivic.org

For info on these and other events, visit AlbanyDowntown.com

Albany Waterfront Entering Pre-Construction Phase

by Sophie Adams

Economic Development Coordinator
City of Albany

The Albany Waterfront Project team has been working to design improvements and create a long-term vision for Monteith Park, the Dave Clark Trail and Water Avenue based on public input.

The new design vision will improve access to the river, connect the waterfront with Downtown, repair the shoreline, make the area feel safer and create new gathering spaces where residents and visitors can enjoy this unique place.

Walker Macy led the design, engineering and construction documentation phase of the project, which is nearing 100% completeness.



Work continues behind the scenes to keep this project moving forward. Permits such as for wetland work, land use, and floodplain development have all been approved.

In addition, over the last several months the city has been going through the competitive process to select a construction manager/general contractor to complete the project. K & E Excavation, a local company with great history and ties to Albany, was selected. They are excited to be constructing and managing such an impactful project for Albany and the Downtown.

We are entering into the pre-construction phase, which will include confirming costs, value engineering, purchasing materials with long lead times, identifying subcontractors and suppliers, coordination with franchise utilities and the railroad and developing a guaranteed maximum price.

Work on the Albany Waterfront Project is anticipated to begin in Spring 2023.

Project development, plans and renderings can be found on our project website, www.albanywaterfront.net.



**ALBANY
DOWNTOWN
ASSOCIATION**

Lise Grato
Executive Director
director@albanydowntown.com

Owen Muller
Front Office Assistant
assistant@albanydowntown.com

www.AlbanyDowntown.com
[Facebook.com/AlbanyDowntownAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/AlbanyDowntownAssociation)
Instagram: AlbanyDowntown

Albany Downtown Association
126 Ferry Street SW
Albany OR 97321
(541) 928-2469

Subscription: Email free. Mail \$6/yr.

Board Members

Hannah Darling
President - CopyWritten

Stephanie Gutierrez
Vice President - Keller Williams

Rod Bigner
Secretary - The Pix Theatre

Bob Moore
Treasurer - People’s Bank

Barbara Doolan - At Large
Julie Jackson - Republic Services
Matt Wadlington - Civil West Engineering
Beth Walker - La Belle Boutique

Board Liaisons

Rebecca Bond - Albany Visitors Assoc.
Matilda Novak - Albany City Council
John Pascone - AMEDC
Sophie Dykast - CARA
Janet Steele - Albany Area Chamber of Commerce

Downtown Awards Recognize Excellence

From page 2

200 entries; in recent years, gallery space limited the number of entries to 150. Participating artists range in age from 3 years to 90 years old. For many, this is the first time they have had their artwork displayed in a real gallery. The younger artists gain confidence and self-esteem when they see their work hung among that of adults and "real" artists. The gallery has a mission to promote arts education."

Additional Nominees:

- Albany Historic Carousel & Museum
- Ba's Vietnamese Comfort
- The Natty Dresser

Standout Volunteer

This award honors an ADA volunteer who has made a noteworthy contribution that is above and beyond what is reasonably expected of a volunteer.



Photo by Katharine Gutierrez Photography

Awardee: Hannah Darling

- "She is the definition of a remarkable volunteer. She began volunteering regularly over five years ago helping the Design Committee with hanging baskets and joining the Promotion Committee."
- "Her dedication to Downtown Albany led her to join ADA's Executive Board of Directors serving as Secretary and now leads the organization as our 2022-23 President."
- "Hannah serves as chair of the 1st Friday in Historic Downtown Albany sub-committee, bringing together new and established businesses to elevate this Downtown partnership event. She has been key in the Albany Alley project and personally sourced and hung the beautiful hanging baskets with her family. She has coordinated the Downtown Twice Around parade for the last two years."
- "We wouldn't be the organization we are today without the dedication and guidance of Hannah Darling!"

Most Innovative Business

This award recognizes creativity in terms of introduction of new products and services to Downtown Albany.

Winner: Stoked 2 Sk8

- "Stoked 2 Sk8 has done a great job of bringing younger people to the Downtown."
- "They are "a breath of fresh air in Downtown Albany, a business with a product that appeals to both young and old. This business has attracted a young clientele while bridging the gap between adults and teens."
- "The customers have seen the owner demonstrate the merchandise, proving that age is a state of mind, not just a number. By

broadening the perception of who is a skateboarder, Josh provides a common ground for all ages to share their passion. This business has spanned generations of buyers."

Additional Nominees:

- Enigma Escape Experience
- Merrime Bridal
- Sybaris Bistro
- Urban Ag Supply

Legends of Lockdown

This award is for organizations or individuals who have gone above and beyond during the Covid-19 pandemic to support Downtown Albany businesses/community in lockdown. It might be an organization or someone who delivered amazing support despite the inherent difficulties of the time and the barriers that were in place.

Winner: Lise Grato

- "Lise worked tirelessly to help businesses get through the lockdown and kept our downtown going!"
- "She never stops! She tirelessly worked to offer assistance and support for Downtown businesses from creating Drive Up Downtown and helping to coordinate the SEAT program for businesses to provide outdoor seating to drawing chalk lines on the pavement and temporary signage to allow for curbside pick up. She took time to highlight businesses on the ADA and her social platforms and encouraged them to share their offerings through her followers."
- "Lise is a shining star in downtown Albany and it wouldn't be the same without her!"

Additional Nominees:

- Albany Civic Theater
- The Albany Pix Theater
- Ba's Vietnamese Comfort Food
- Sybaris Bistro

Good Neighbor Award

This award recognizes a business that collaborates, cross promotes and supports other Downtown Albany businesses through marketing or event collaboration.

Winner: Albany Pix Theatre

- "Always coordinates with other businesses and events and regularly coordinates lunches and dinners with Sybaris Bistro. They use social media and signage to cross-promote other businesses and the services they provide. When playing the movie Clue they encouraged patrons to see the play at the Albany Civic Theater and to go play the game at a local game shop."

Additional Nominees:

- Albany Historic Carousel & Museum
- No Dinx
- The Albany Visitors Association

Bricks & Mortar Rehabilitation

This award is designed to recognize building owners or programs that positively impact preservation efforts. This may include façade improvements, restoration projects, adaptive reuse, or more. Important factors to highlight



Photo by Katharine Gutierrez Photography

include quality, historic preservation, creativity and impact within budget or constraints.

Winner: The Natty Dresser

This project was undertaken at a time when most others were being put on hold due to uncertain conditions. The work included restoring and refurbishing the front facade, the outside and inside of the building. Fourteen 40-yard dumpsters were used in the clean-up of the inside of this now beautiful building. The scope of work, the quality of the work and the level of finishes in the building were not compromised; you only have to walk into the building now to see the love and appreciation that went into this project!

Outstanding Building Owners of the Year

These building owners showed good tenant relations, site management, improvements to their building and continued beautification of the interior and exterior of their building.

Seth Fortier has upheld a high standard for the quality and attraction of the historic Downtown buildings. At great cost, he has beautified and modernized his buildings while keeping their original charm. He is fair with his tenants and stays aware of site needs.

Thad and Shannon Olivetti keep their building immaculate. Whether it's touchup painting blowing leaves off the sidewalk or upgrading tenant apartments, they are exemplary owners in Downtown Albany.

Kathy May continues to update and upgrade with the highest of standards in her historic buildings. Merrime Bridal has received new flooring upstairs, is receiving a new front door and a completely renovated front patio with new tile.

John Boock owns several buildings downtown and has served as a fair and supportive landlord. He has allowed the use of his unique upstairs apartment for a variety of events including the Historic Interior Home Tours. He has even ventured outside his own buildings to create art and beauty in the community - an example is the park on the corner of First and Lyon. He was instrumental in getting the carousel their building and continues to support our historic Downtown community - often behind the scenes.

Mike & Karen McLain are very attentive building owners making sure that everything is in good working order and check with us regularly to check we have what we need. They work closely with the other building tenants as well. They also open their apartment to host events and for upstairs tours.

Congratulations to all of our amazing Downtown nominees and winners.



DOWNTOWN ALBANY

September 2022

Antiques in the Streets & Classic Car Show is Sept 10

Antiques in the Streets & Classic Car Show is set for Saturday, September 10th. This popular annual event, hosted by Albany Antique Mall, runs from 8 am - 4 pm between 1st and 4th Avenues in Historic Downtown Albany.

"Shop for amazing treasures from over 50 street vendors and at the Albany Antique Mall sidewalk sale," said Sharon Anderson, owner of Albany Antique Mall. "Then tour over 100 amazing cars from 1975 and earlier."

Over 35 fun awards in unusual categories are sponsored by local businesses and will be presented at 3 pm. There is also a special award for the club with the most participation. The first 100 participants to register will receive a dash plaque and goodie bag at check-in.

Nate Smith Headlines Albany Downtown Block Party on Sept 3

The 1st annual Albany Downtown Block Party, a music & beer festival set for Sat., September 3, will feature country rising star Nate Smith as a stop on his "Whiskey on You" tour. Also performing are The Hilltop Saints, Jayden Noble and Von Boys.

The in-street event starts at 3 pm at 3rd & Broadalbin. There are activities for the



The car show supports a different local charity each year. All proceeds from this year's car show will benefit the Albany Firefighter Community Assistance Fund.

"When you get hungry, have lunch at one of Downtown Albany's fabulous restaura-

whole family including a skateboarding demo hosted by Stoked 2 SK8, a bounce house and a dunk tank.

Food options include dozens of Downtown restaurants as well as food stands & trucks, Mad Platter, Bakers Dozen, Curbside Bacon, Grindz, and Kona Ice.

The presenting sponsor is IronHead Roofing, joined by main event sponsors The Garage, McClinton Auto Collision and McHenry Interiors.

The Albany Block Party online shop offers a Block Party Starter Pack, a T-shirt and 4 drink tickets for only \$45. A savings of \$12! Pre-sale drink tickets are just \$7.

For easy parking, head to I-5 Sports at 635 Pacific Blvd SW and ride the Albany Trolley to and from the event.

For information and to visit the store, go to www.albanydowntownblockparty.com. To keep up to date on the event, follow The Garage on social media.



Albany Beer Run is Back!

The annual .3K Albany Beer "Run" (yup, that's 0.3K) is set for Sat., September 10 starting at the Calapooia Brewery at 140 NE Hill St. and ending at Deluxe Brewery at 635 NE Water Ave. The beer garden opens at 11 am, the race starts at noon!

Dedicated to the below-average athlete and weekend warrior in all of us, the Albany Beer "Run" features a delicious Calapooia and Deluxe beer before and after and there's even a carb-loading station and other refreshments available.

Sponsored by the Corvallis Lions. Enjoy this fundraiser for Heartland Humane Society with your friendly two and four legged best friends! See more info at www.omroadrace.org/albany-beer-run.