

# Meet the Neighbors: Asian Fare & Lunar New Year

January is a time of new beginnings. In 2025, the Gregorian calendar and Lunar New Year both fall in January. We have the full month to celebrate, with Lunar New Year falling on January 29.

Downtown Albany has three amazing Asian restaurants that bring you tantalizing flavors and diverse options for dine in and take out all week long.

## Ba's Vietnamese Comfort Food

Ba's Vietnamese Comfort Food owners Karen and Seth Carey share authentic flavors of Vietnam with the Albany community. The name Ba's honors Karen's family roots - Ba means Dad in Vietnamese, and it was an awesome dad who inspired the couple to open the restaurant.



Ba's Vietnamese Comfort Food

Karen Carey, who learned to cook from her father, Tony Pham, shares the same recipes she grew up with. Order at the counter, then find your favorite table and settle in for your meal to arrive.

Ba's offers a menu full of comfort food, including appetizers like egg rolls, shrimp and pork or tofu salad rolls and beef pho that simmers for 24 hours. Other options include chicken pho, banh mi sandwiches, ginger chicken and noodle salads. Ba's dishes are made with fresh ingredients and are free of added MSG.

The restaurant also features a variety of specialty drinks like iced teas, hot tea, Vietnamese coffee, avocado smoothies, and a selection of sake, beer, wine and specialty cocktails.

Ba's is open 5 days a week: Tuesday-Saturday, 11:30 am- 3 pm and 5-8:30 pm and closed Sunday and Monday.

## Jinda Thai Restaurant

Jinda Thai offers full table service and a diverse menu of authentic Thai dishes, crafted from traditional recipes and the freshest ingredients. Owner Vichuda Stine and her team endeavor to bring you the authenticity of Thai food.

From favorites like Pad Thai Noodles and Panang Curry to their signature Crying Tiger Beef Steak and Volcano Fish and Shrimp, there is something to



Jinda Thai

delight everyone, and don't miss the Mango Sticky Rice for dessert!

Open 6 days a week: Tuesday-Friday 11 am-3 pm, 4-9 pm, Saturday & Sunday 12-3 pm, 4-9 pm, closed Monday.

## K Teriyaki

Last summer, Andrew Yi, the former owner of Ginza Japanese Restaurant, purchased Toki Teriyaki, then remodeled reopening as K Teriyaki.



K's Teriyaki

They serve Korean and Japanese dishes like teriyaki chicken, shrimp yakisoba, BBQ ribs, katsu chicken, gyoza, ramen and edamame. Their signature Bibimbap, a Korean rice bowl, has limited availability, so order early.

At lunch, they also offer "Happy Bowls" in teriyaki chicken, spicy chicken, curry chicken, Bulgogi beef and veggie tofu.

Check the cooler for many Asian specialty beverages and fun desserts.

K is open 6 days a week: Monday-Friday 11 am-7:30 pm, Saturday 12-7:30 pm and closed on Sunday.



## Volunteer Spotlight Glenn Anderson

Glenn is the talent behind the sounds of Downtown Albany, adding a special touch to countless events with his behind-the-scenes support. While many folks don't know his face (even we couldn't catch him in front of a camera), he brings smiles to all when he rolls in with the Scooby Doo van and raises the speaker tower filling the air with tunes.

Glenn has been part of Downtown Albany for many years. His van was a staple in the Downtown Twice Around Parade, and more recently, he's been stationed at the Two Rivers Market lot kicking up the sound for our Community Tree Lighting.

For the past four years, Glenn has provided audio, video equipment, and tech support for our movie events.

Thank you, Glenn, for bringing a special kind of hometown ambiance that helps welcome everyone to Downtown Albany!!



The ParkWise Ferry Parking Lot will be closed on Thursday, January 9, for city inspections. Both the customer and leased spaces will be unavailable from 6 am to 6 pm. The lot is located off Water Ave. between Broadalbin and Ferry Streets behind the JC Penney building.

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

Our January parking winner is...

*Lane Brown*  
Brick & Mortar Cafe

## Downtown Events - January

**Thursday, Jan 2 - Saturday, Jan 25 - Gallery Calapooia Exhibit & Artist Reception**  
This month Gallery Calapooia is featuring the Octopus. The artist reception is Friday, January 3 from 6-8 pm. For more info, call (541) 971-5701 or visit [www.gallerycalapooia.com](http://www.gallerycalapooia.com).

**Friday, Jan 3 - Friday, Feb 28 - First Friday Art Show at City Hall**  
The Albany Arts Commission presents the work of artists Jennifer Deily and Martha Lewis in the gallery at City Hall. View the exhibit during regular City Hall hours, 8 am-5 pm. A reception for the artists will be held Friday, February 7 from 5-7 pm. Light refreshments will be served. Free and open to the public.

**Friday, Jan 3 - 1st Friday in Historic Downtown Albany: Happy New Year!**  
Bring your friends Downtown for some 1st Friday fun! Look for sales, tasting, music, a special event at the Carousel and other fun. For more info, our Facebook page or visit the ADA website [www.albanydowntown.com/events](http://www.albanydowntown.com/events).

**Friday, Jan 3 - 1st Friday Movie Night at Albany Regional Museum**  
Grab your popcorn, we're hosting a movie night in our Community Room! For this double feature, we will be showing "Camp Adair: The Story of a World War II Cantonment" and "In Pursuit of a Dream." Stay for one or for both! 5-7 pm. [www.armuseum.com](http://www.armuseum.com).

**Wednesday, Jan 8 - History Bites - Mills Preservation Society**  
Albany Regional Museum presents Don Lyon from Thompson's Mills Preservation Society, who will speak about the history and significance of the oldest operable water-powered grist mill in Oregon on our region's agriculture. History Bites is free to attend. 12-1 pm. Light refreshments provided. [www.armuseum.com](http://www.armuseum.com).

**Friday, Jan 10 - Saturday, Jan 25 - ACT presents "Charley's Aunt"**  
Albany Civic Theater presents "Charley's Aunt." See story page 4.

**Friday, Jan 28 - Saturday, Feb 22 - Gallery Calapooia "Big Show of Little Art"**  
The annual "8 x 8 Exhibit." of community art. See story page 1

**Friday, Feb 7 - 1st Friday in Historic Downtown Albany: Chocolate Walk**  
Bring your friends Downtown for some 1st Friday fun with a Chocolate theme. Look for chocolate samples, hot chocolate, cheesecake, cupcakes and other chocolate goodies. Check out the sales, music, artist receptions, a Carousel special event and other fun. For more info, visit the ADA website [www.albanydowntown.com/events](http://www.albanydowntown.com/events) or our Facebook page.

For info on these and other events, visit [AlbanyDowntown.com](http://AlbanyDowntown.com)

## OMS Revitalization Grant Opportunity

From page 1

interested ADA member is properly prepared for the Oregon Main Street Application process, we are again requiring a "pre-application."

Pre-applications will be reviewed and follow-up questions made by the ADA's Grant Committee to make our final project selection. Once a project is selected, we will work together to complete the official SHPO grant application.

View & complete the pre-app at: <https://tinyurl.com/OMSGrantPreApp2025>.

### Grant Timeline

- Wed., Jan. 1 - ADA Pre-Application open
- Thur., Jan. 9 - Application workshop. Statewide zoom event hosted by Oregon Heritage & OMS. 1-4 pm. Open to all. Registration is required. <https://tinyurl.com/OMSgrantWorkshop2025>
- Sun, Jan. 12 - ADA Pre-App deadline
- Fri., Jan. 23 - Project partner announced. Partner starts ADA's questionnaire.
- Mon., Feb. 3 - Questionnaire due to ADA. Collaboration on application begins.

- Tues., Feb. 25 - Partner application completed and due to reviewing committee
- Thurs., Mar. 13 - Final touches & submit online ap to Oregon Heritage
- May 2025 - Award notification
- Tues., July 1 - Project start date
- Mar 31, 2028 - Project Completion Deadline

In 2015, legislation established a permanent fund for the OMSRG and provided an initial \$2.5 million of funding as part of a lottery bond package. In 2017, an additional \$5 million was approved and funded through the 2019 lottery bond package. For 2025, the funding was increased to \$10 million.

In 2023, the fourth grant cycle, SHPO awarded 27 OMS grants worth \$4,997,535 to OMS Network organizations across Oregon for building projects that encourage economic vitality. The projects brought a matching investment of \$13,470,908 to Oregon downtowns.

For more information, contact ADA at (541) 928-2469.



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## Downtown Twice Around Parade Lights the Night

The Downtown Twice Around Parade and Community Tree Lighting brightened the night of thousands of friends and families on Sunday, December 1.

There were over 40 entries in this year's parade. Winners are selected based on theme, lights and overall presentation. Judging was quite the animated event, and the judges eventually came to a consensus. They said, "We hereby declare the following..."

- 1st Place - Jump City
- 2nd Place - Pacific Power
- 3rd Place - 1st Hand Seconds
- Honorable Mention - Peterson CAT

It was a great event and we wish to thank:

- ADA's Promotion Committee and 2024 Parade Volunteers for making it happen.
- Santa, Mayor Alex Johnson II and Albany City Councilors for joining us.
- Merrime Bridal, our 2024 Excellence in Downtown Albany Business of the Year, for leading the parade.
- Our 2024 parade judges Melinda Martin and Brenda Daigle, City Delivery and Keith Kolkow and Jerred Taylor, Albany Pride, our 2024 Excellence in Downtown Albany Business of the Year Open Door Award recipient.
- South Albany HS singers and Glenn's Mobile DJ for bringing the sounds of the season to our event each year.
- Weyerhaeuser, Pacific Power and City of Albany Works for their tree donation, set up and decoration.
- Sunbelt Rentals and David Kalar for the event lighting.

Photo credits to Julie-Marie Krussow

## "Charley's Aunt" Opens at Albany Civic Theater on Jan 10

"Charley's Aunt," a classic farce full of mistaken identities and hilarious twists, opens at Albany Civic Theater on January 10 and continues through 25.

The play follows two Oxford students, Charley Wykeham and Jack Chesney, who need a chaperone to meet their



Building sets for Charley's Aunt

love interests, Amy Spettigue and Kitty Verdun. They invite the ladies to meet Charley's wealthy aunt from Brazil, "where the nuts come from."

When Charley's aunt, Donna Lucia d'Alvadorez, cancels her visit at the last minute, she sends the boys into cataclysmic confusion. The duo convinces their Oxford undergrad friend, Lord Fancourt Babberley ("Babs"), to step in. Babs dresses as the aunt, donning a black satin skirt, bloomers and wig.

This leads to a whirlwind of chaos as the girls' guardian and Jack's father both become smitten with the "aunt" and compete for her attention. When the real aunt turns up, classic comic confusion ensues!

Performances are January 10, 11, 16,



Merrime Bridal - 2024 Excellence in Downtown Albany - Business of the Year



1st Place - Jump City



2nd Place - Pacific Power



3rd Place - 1st Hand Seconds



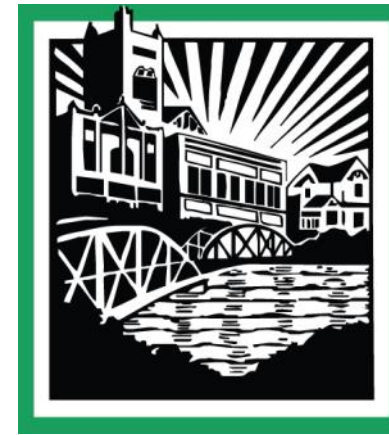
Honorable Mention - Peterson CAT



Charley's Aunt Rehearsal

17, 18, 19(m), 23, 24, 25. Evening performances start at 7:30 pm. The matinee begins at 2:30 pm. The theater is located at 111 1st Ave. W in Historic Downtown Albany.

For more information, tickets or to volunteer, visit the Albany Civic Theater website at [albanycivic.org](http://albanycivic.org).



# DOWNTOWN ALBANY

January 2025

## OMS Revitalization Grant Opportunity Returns for 2025

We are very excited to share that the Albany Downtown Association has launched our pre-application process to find a member project as our submission for the 2025 Oregon Main Street Revitalization Grant.

As in 2023, this statewide grant is open for downtown revitalization efforts in communities participating in the Oregon Main Street Network, including Historic Downtown Albany.

ADA's project to restore the Oregon Electric Railway Station as the new home for Sybaris Bistro was among 28 projects selected in 2022. The grant-specific projects will be completed this April.

In 2023, ADA was awarded grants for the Greyhound Tavern and Briggs Building. The Greyhound grant projects were completed in June 2024, and Briggs is on track for the April 2026 completion deadline. We hope to find a competitive project and be awarded a grant for Downtown Albany again this year.

The Oregon Main Street Revitalization Grant is a competitive grant offered by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Up from the \$200,000 limit in 2022 and 2023, the 2025 opportunity is up to \$400,000. Matching funds of at least 30% of the award is required. Matching funds can be in the form of cash, in-kind donations, and/or volunteer time. Working capital is also needed as the grant is on a reimbursement basis, typically quarterly.

The Revitalization Grant funds may be used to acquire, rehabilitate and construct buildings on properties. Funded projects must facilitate community revitalization that will lead to private investment, job creation or retention, establishing or expanding viable businesses or creating a stronger tax base. Projects may include façade improvement, accessibility enhancement, basic utilities, second-floor renovations and more.

The OMS Revitalization Grant application must be submitted by the Albany



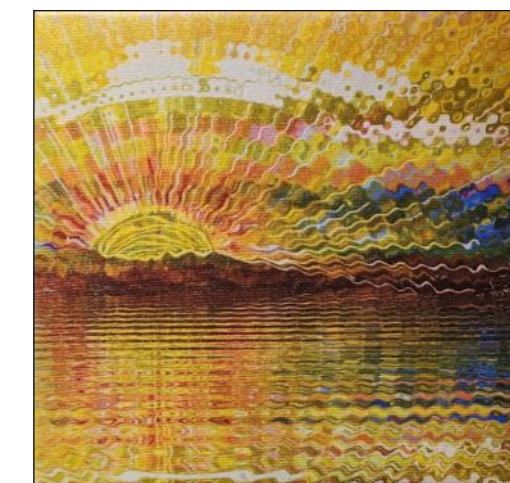
Downtown Association on the member's behalf. Only one applicant will be submitted for Albany for this grant cycle.

To help the ADA grant committee select the project most in keeping with the grant mission and highest likelihood of winning an award and to ensure that the

Turn to page 3

## Gallery Calapooia "Big Show of Little Art" Call for Artists and Exhibit Opening

It's time for the 7th Annual Big Show of Little Art at Gallery Calapooia.



The gallery is inviting artists of all ages and experience levels to participate in its upcoming community art show, set to open on Tuesday, January 28.

Known as the "8 x 8 Exhibit," the event celebrates the creativity within the community. The show is open to everyone from first-time to veteran artists. All artwork must be for sale. Artwork previously shown in Gallery Calapooia's community exhibits will not be accepted.

Entries must be hand-delivered to the gallery between 10 am and 6 pm on Sunday, January 21. Entry forms are available online or at the gallery.

While the exhibit has a relatively small

space, the Big Show of Little Art features about 110 entries, depending on the mix of 2D and 3D work.

All artwork must fit within the 8" x 8" x 8" size limit, including any frames or stands. Wall art must be exactly 8 x 8 inches. Artists can view sample works on the gallery's website or Facebook page, and 8 x 8 canvases and supplies are available at The Frame House, 434 1st Ave. W in Downtown Albany.

The artists' reception will be held on Friday, February 7, from 6 to 8 pm. The exhibit runs from January 28 to February 22. For more info, call (541) 971-5701, visit the gallery at 222 1st Ave. SW. or go to [www.gallerycalapooia.com](http://www.gallerycalapooia.com).