



## 26TH ANNUAL BANK OF AMERICA WINE, SPIRITS AND CULINARY CELEBRATION RAISED FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE MUSEUM'S ACCESS PROGRAMS

**Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (March 20, 2023)** - The [Museum of Discovery and Science \(MODS\)](#) hosted its 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Bank of America Wine, Spirits and Culinary Celebration on Friday, March 3, 2023. Funds raised through the event support making the Museum's educational programming accessible regardless of financial means. Access programs include ***Museums for All***, \$2 Museum admission for SNAP benefits holders; ***Kids Club***, free Museum admission for 35 non-profit youth agencies; ***Dignity in Aging***, outreach at senior centers and field trips to the Museum for isolated seniors; ***Blue Star Museums***, free Museum admission for active military and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day; ***Sensory Sunday***, activities on the last Sunday of every month for the autism community; and ***MODS STEMobile***, STEM programs delivered free to youth in underserved South Florida communities.

The evening was presented by Bank of America and featured more than 25 well-known South Florida restaurants and caterers, samplings of more than 50 wines and spirits from around the world and an array of craft beers enjoyed by approximately 1,500 guests.

"We want to thank our sponsors, guests, restaurants and spirits purveyors and MODS staff for making our 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Bank of America Wine, Spirits and Culinary celebration a huge success, said **Joseph P. Cox**, president & CEO of MODS. "It is such an honor to see our community come together and support the Museum's mission. We look forward to many more years of delicious bites, wines, spirits and entertainment."

MODS strongly believes that every individual, regardless of financial means, should be able to visit the Museum. The Museum's access programs enable individuals, families and educational groups to better access the Museum and its resources. This evening helped underwrite these accessibility programs, which directly impact our south Florida community, especially children.

“For 26 years, we have celebrated alongside the Museum of Discovery & Science as part of a shared mission to inspire learning,” said **Lori Chevy, president, Bank of America Fort Lauderdale**. “The funds raised during this event will provide underserved members of our Broward County community with an opportunity to experience MODS through educational programs, accommodations and discounts.”

During the event, guests voted for their favorite restaurants and the 2023 People’s Choice Culinary winner was John Knox Village and the People’s Beverage winner was Rock N Roll Tequila.

One of the distinguishing features of the Wine, Spirits and Culinary Celebration is the quality of the restaurants along with their array of unique and exciting offerings during the silent auction. The event’s legendary Grand Tasting featured samplings from beloved local restaurants which included the following: Another Fare to Remember, Arc Culinary, Bang Energy, Barbados Tourism Marketing, Boatyard, Bolay, Bo’s Pub, CrepeMaker, Dunkin’ Donuts, Fireman Derek’s Bake Shop Fort Lauderdale, Funky Buddha Brewery, Gold Marquess, JC Beans Café, John Knox Village, Kelly’s Landing, Ladyfrozen Frozen Lemonade, Lobster Bar Sea Grille, Nikki’s Foods LLC, Red Chair Catering, Tasteful Thoughts, The Hollywood Donut Factory, YOLO and Zona Fresca.

This year’s libations came from the event’s exclusive sponsor Southern Glazer’s Wine and Spirits and an array of craft beers including fan favorites 26° Brewing, 3 Cool Cats, Bacardi, C Mondavi and Family, Casa Del Sol Tequila, Constellation Brands, El Tequileño, Enovation, Fifth Generation (Titos), First Growth Brands, Foley Family Wines, Funky Buddha, Gonzalez Byass, Hard Truth Distilling Company, Justin Vineyards, Lagunitas, Long Drink, Make It Better LLC (E11even Vodka), Mast-Jägermeister, McBride Sisters Wine Company, Oak Ridge Winery, Ole Smoky Distillery, Orange Blossom, Pernod Ricard USA, Phillips Distilling Company and Fever-Tree Prestige Wine Imports, Primo Liquors, Riboli Family Wines, Rock N Roll Tequila, Royal Wine Corp, Sam Adams, Schenk Wines USA, Shaw Ross, Sierra Nevada, Sophisticated Sand Spirits, Ste Michelle Wine Estates, Tequila 512, The Tank, Trincherro, Truly, Vera Wang Prosecco, Voli 305 and Wynwood Brewing.

Major sponsors of the 26th Annual Wine & Culinary Celebration were: Bank of America (Presenting Sponsor); Southern Glazer’s Wine & Spirits (Exclusive Beverage Sponsor); Doubletime Digital (Exclusive Print Sponsor); Centuric (Wine Charm Sponsor); John Knox Village (Platinum Lounge Sponsor); JM Lexus (Grand Arrival Sponsor); Stiles Corporation (Bar Sponsor); City Furniture (Beer Garden Sponsor); Truist (Entertainment Sponsor); Gold Coast (Beer Sponsor); JetBlue (After Party Sponsor); Lifestyle Media Group (Exclusive Media Partner); Brown & Brown Insurance of Florida and M. Austin & Christine (Valet Sponsors);

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**Photos (courtesy of MODS):**

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/45o4dj0vhhnb85pu1prih/h?dl=0&rlkey=9q9nl0nii0f887vfl0cmey344>

**About the Museum of Discovery and Science:**

Founded in 1976 as the Discovery Center, today the Museum of Discovery and Science (MODS) is at the forefront of science education, innovation, and exploration. MODS connects people to inspiring science, providing STEM education and cultural experiences for 450,000+ visitors annually in the 150,00 sq. ft facility. MODS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that has been accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) for three decades (only 3% of science museums are accredited for excellence and leadership in the field). In the past year, MODS has added to that distinction by being named *Broward's Hub for Resilience Education* by the Board of the Community Foundation of Broward. The Museum was selected by the LEGO® Foundation as one of only 12 museums nationwide to join the *Playful Learning Museum Network* and was selected as one of 15 finalists for the prestigious *2022 IMLS National Medal for Museum Service*.

The Museum celebrates diversity and welcomes visitors from all walks of life. The Museum hours are Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. MODS is located downtown at 401 SW Second Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312. For more information about the museum, please visit [mods.org](http://mods.org) or call 954.467.MODS (6637).

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