

How to get tickets for the Boys & Girls Clubs' annual Chocolate Fantasy fundraiser in Redlands



Courtesy Photo

A table of treats from Michelle's Bakery at a previous Chocolate Fantasy.

By **KRISTINA HERNANDEZ** | khernandez@scng.com | Redlands Daily Facts
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A night out on the town could bring in some needed dollars for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Redlands-Riverside.

On Saturday, Feb. 10, the local nonprofit will host the 24th annual Chocolate Fantasy fundraiser to support the organization and help provide scholarships for members.

Last year's event raised \$100,000, said Kate Salvesen, the club's vice president of resource development, and organizers are hoping for similar results through ticket sales, and silent and live auctions. Guests will have a chance to participate in a raffle for an third series Apple Watch and bid on items from a week in Paris to watching "Hamilton" on Broadway in New York City.

Other items include a private tour of Garner Holt Productions in San Bernardino, a chance to watch a Los Angeles Angeles of Anaheim game behind home plate, and court-side tickets to see the Los Angeles Lakers take on the Dallas Mavericks in March.

But Chocolate Fantasy wouldn't be what it is without the food, sweets and drinks organizers secure from local restaurants and breweries. Participating businesses include Parliament Chocolate, Michelle's Bakery, Ritual Brewing Co., Old Spaghetti Factory and Jose's Mexican Food. The B.O.E. Band will provide music for the evening.

The Boys & Girls Club first planned Chocolate Fantasy as a fundraiser to help bring financial stability to the organization, said club CEO P.T. McEwen.

Today, the event continues "to help the club with unrestricted funding to pay for those things that aren't paid for by grants or other contracts," McEwen said. "It still helps with financial stability, but also introduces people to what we do at the Boys & Girls Club and have a great time of course.

"It's all for the kids," he said.

Event tickets are available for \$140 for a Golden Ticket, which includes reserved seating and wine tasting, and \$100 for a Friend Ticket. Table sponsorships also are available.

Tickets are available at the club administration offices at 1251 Clay St., online at begreatie.org or by calling 888-822-6535.

Chocolate Fantasy is open to guests 21 and over, and black tie attire is preferred.

Event doors open at 6:30 p.m., with festivities running from 7 to 11 p.m. at the Mitten Building at 345 N. Fifth St., in downtown Redlands.