

Chocolate Fantasy raises about \$110,000 for Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Redlands-Riverside



The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Redlands-Riverside's 24th annual Chocolate Fantasy was held Feb. 10 in the Mitten Building in Redlands. (Photo courtesy of Tim Stytle)

By **STAFF REPORT** |
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The 24th annual Chocolate Fantasy, held Feb. 10 at the Mitten Building in Redlands, raised about \$110,000 for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Redlands-Riverside.

The event featured savory and sweet treats from local restaurants, bakeries and chocolatiers; champagne; live and silent auctions; a raffle; and dancing to a live band.

Children and teens from the Boys & Girls Club welcomed guests and handed out information about the club's scholarship fund.

The event's Grand Chocolatier sponsors were Rowena and James Ramos and Diana and Dave McLaughlin. Vendors included Greensleeves Steakhouse, Parliament Chocolate, Michelle's Bakery, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Jimmy John's, Mill Creek Cattle Company, Ritual Brewing, State Street Winery, Lunch at the Mitten, Jose's Mexican Food and Old Spaghetti Factory. Local wine experts Philip Paxton and Annette Weis of Langa Cellars poured wines from a variety of California wineries, a new feature this year.

Attendees voted for their favorite restaurant, chocolate maker and decorations. Michelle's won Chocolatier and Decorations of the Year, and Lunch at the Mitten won Restaurateur of the Year.

Ray Watts, associate vice president for development at the University of Redlands, was the live auctioneer.