



Cultural Arts Council

Douglasville/Douglas County

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 26, 2016

For more information:

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20th Annual Chili Cook-Off was a festive, convivial celebration!

Douglasville, Georgia – The Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County hosted its 20th Annual Chili Cook Off on Saturday, October 22nd and the hungry hordes descended on downtown Douglasville. Twenty-five chili booths hosted by political candidates and local businesses and area service clubs competed for bragging rights of being the best chili, the spiciest chili and the having the most sold chili. The best decorated booth was also highly competitive and a costume contest for all ages was also held as the crowd happily worked their way through hundreds of gallons of chili.

An estimated crowd of 2,800 milled about on the crowded Plaza – enjoying the last event before the Plaza is renovated and they were delighted to hear that the winners were:

Best Chili – Tim Pounds

Spiciest Chili - Petite Sweetz (a first time participant)

The Chili judging was done by Chef Gabe Toups, Tami Toups from Gabe's Downtown and David Manny.

Best Decorated Booth – Mark Adams (a two-time winner)

The booth decorating judging was done by Mausii, owner of TUOIA Frame and Art Shop downtown.

Best costume infant – age 5 category was 15 month old Duke Dunkin as a “Magician”

Best costume 1st grade – 5th grade category was 10 year old Henry Pope as a “Pink Sheep”

Best costume 6th grade – 12th grade category was 12 year old Drako Owens as “Agent Drako from Halo”

Best costume— adults category was Robert Strenad as “Poppy Pig”

The costume judging was done by CAC volunteer June Keen, CAC theatre teacher Courtnee Miles and Erica Martin.

Sunday after the event volunteers dutifully counted all the ticket stubs redeemed for chili and the tickets revealed that Most Sold Chili (for the second consecutive year) was Michael Barnhill.

“After a windy day the evening was cool and utterly pleasant, as was the large crowd packed onto the Plaza,” said Davina Grace Hill, Executive Director. “Of note was that Helen Meade attended. Helen was the CAC’s Executive Director who started Chili Cook Off two decades ago on the CAC front porch and this year she was able to see how far her vision for the event had come.”

People came to downtown Douglasville to chow down, visit with friends, show off their creative costumes (and creative chili titles), and end with a race through the streets with the Douglas County Rogue Runners Moonlight Run.

Generously sponsored by John Bleakley Ford and joined by Georgia Power and the Rogue Runners, Chili Cook Off 2016 is now over. But look out for next year when it comes of age with the 21st Annual Celebration!

The Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/ Douglas County, located at 8652 Campbellton Street in historic downtown Douglasville, Georgia, is open Mondays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For directions or more information, visit www.artsdouglas.org or contact the Cultural Arts Council at 770-949-2787.

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The mission of the Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County is to nurture, guide and stimulate the enjoyment of and participation in the arts among Douglas County residents by providing an atmosphere conducive to the arts, broadening the spectrum of quality exhibits and performances available to the community, and fostering individual interactions with the arts through a wide range of satellite groups. The programs and activities of the Cultural Arts Council are supported in part by the City of Douglasville and the Douglas County Board of Commissioners.