

February 18, 2010

James Beard award semifinalists are plentiful in Chicago area

Share |



Posted by Monica Eng

The James Beard Award Foundation announced the semifinalists for its annual Restaurant and Chef Awards today, and Chicago-area chefs and restaurants represented like crazy. The nominees will be whittled down to five finalists in each category on March 22. But just making the list of semifinalists is a huge honor. The local list is below, and the full list can be found [here](#). (link to PDF)

2010 James Beard Award semifinalists

Outstanding Restaurant: Les Nomades and Spiaggia

Outstanding Chef: Jean Joho (Everest), Paul Kahan (Blackbird)

Outstanding Service: Alinea and Spiaggia

Outstanding Restaurateur: Donald Madia (Avec, Big Star, Blackbird, The Publican) and Richard Melman (Lettuce Entertain You)

Best New Restaurant: Cibo Matto and Pelago

Outstanding Wine & Spirits Professional: Brian Duncan (Bin 36), Alpana Singh (Lettuce Entertain You)

Outstanding Wine Service: Alinea and NoMI

Outstanding Pastry Chef: Mindy Segal (Hot Chocolate)

Best Chef, Great Lakes region: Michael Carlson (Schwa), Curtis Duffy (Avenues), Koren Grieveson (Avec), Bill Kim (Urban Belly), Chris Nugent (Les Nomades), Arun Sampanthavivat (Arun's), Bruce Sherman (North Pond), Giuseppe Tentori (Boka), Paul Virant (Vie)

And downstate Illinois picked up a mention when Josh Adams, chef/owner of June restaurant in Peoria Heights, was nominated as **Rising Star Chef** (for chefs under 30 years old).

Posted at 11:11:08 AM in [Awards](#), [Chefs](#)