

RESTAURANTS

\$4,800 in fine dining for \$25? Details and more

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This week's theme: give a bit, get a lot. From the last 2023 free sampling event in Bonita Springs to a pretty fantastic foodie raffle, you'll spend \$25.

But spending a tad more might increase your odds, and it's all for a good cause.

Winner, winner, fantastic dinners

It's curtains up for TheatreZone's third Culinary Theatre raffle. For \$25 per ticket or \$100 for five, you could nab up to \$4,800 fine-dining gift certificates to 16 Southwest Florida restaurants.

Grand prize winners score \$2,000, comprising \$400 for each location to



Grilled Mediterranean octopus with Asian pear, chickpeas, macadamia nuts, romesco sauce and black garlic emulsion at USS Nemo restaurant in Naples. COURTESY USS NEMO

spend at Baleen, Bleu Provence, Campagna Hospitality (you might know it as

Vincenzo Betulia's various restaurants), Capital Grille, and 16 cards in \$25 denominations for Phelan Family Brands spots including Pinchers, Texas Tony's, Phuzzy's Boat Shack, Deep Lagoon and Two Fillets.

Second prize is \$1,600 broken down into \$400 increments at Fleming's, M Waterfront Grille, Ridgway Bar & Grill, and USS Nemo.

Third prize is also a winner, totaling \$1,200 with \$400 to spend at Ocean Prime, Old Vines Supper Club, and Ruth's Chris in Bonita.

You'll have to wait to reap the rewards: the drawing takes place at the season's final performance, "Carrie: The Musical," on May 5.

According to TheatreZone's Founding Artistic Director Mark Danni, the raffle has generated over \$50,000 in its

first two years. The company's mission is to bring professional live theatre to Naples for the enjoyment of audiences and the enrichment of the Southwest Florida community.

Visit theatre.zone to purchase.

New brew & more

Grumpy Goat Coffee's "Holiday Sips & Bites" free tasting event features a whopping 10 vendors on Dec. 21 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Two new purveyors in the usual lineup include Swamp Cat Brewing Company, a soon-to-open veterans and FGCU alumni-founded brewery, and Hemingway Lane Candles & Gifts. The tasting events are open to the public.

(28280 Old 41 Road, Unit 11, Bonita Springs; grumpygoat.com)