



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce Announces 2026 Golden Spoon Distinction Honorees at Taste of Los Gatos

Los Gatos, CA – September 19, 2026 — The Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce **Oak & Rye** and **Telefèric Barcelona Los Gatos** as the 2026 recipients of the Chamber's Golden Spoon Distinction, recognizing their significant contributions to Los Gatos' culinary identity, business community, and quality of life.

The two restaurants will be honored during **Taste of Los Gatos 2026** on Saturday, September 19, on the event's Main Stage.

About the Golden Spoon Distinction

The Golden Spoon is not a contest for "best chef" or "top restaurant." Instead, it recognizes restaurants and culinary leaders whose work has made a meaningful and sustained contribution to Los Gatos' dining scene and community.

For 2026, honorees were considered based on four areas:

- **Chamber & Festival Collaboration** – Meaningful engagement with the Los Gatos Chamber and participation in Chamber programs, events, and *Taste of Los Gatos*
- **Culinary Excellence and/or Innovation** – Demonstrated culinary quality, creativity, originality, and innovation
- **Elevating Los Gatos as a Dining Destination** – Making a sustained contribution to Los Gatos' reputation as a destination for exceptional food, hospitality, and culinary experiences
- **Community Contribution** – Sustained and meaningful support for local schools, nonprofits, civic organizations, charitable causes, and the broader community



The 2026 honorees were selected by the Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce based on their distinctive contributions across these areas.

Celebrating Our 2026 Honorees

Oak & Rye

For more than a decade, **Oak & Rye** has made a lasting contribution to the Los Gatos dining scene, establishing itself as a chef-driven downtown restaurant known for wood-fired pizza, creative small plates and craft cocktails.

Created as a family venture, Ross and Bree Hanson have brought a distinctive culinary point of view to downtown Los Gatos through Oak & Rye. When the restaurant opened, *Eater San Francisco* highlighted its pedigree. The restaurant went on to receive recognition from Bay Area food publications, helping establish Oak & Rye as a destination for diners beyond Los Gatos.

Oak & Rye's contribution extends well beyond its kitchen. The restaurant has been a loyal Chamber member and a participant in **Taste of Los Gatos from the beginning**, while supporting local community events including **Lions Club Date Night and Rotary CrabFest**. Ross Hanson has also been involved with **Star Chefs** since its inception, helping coordinate chef participation in the annual fundraiser benefiting mental health services in Silicon Valley. The restaurant has supported the community in times of need as well, including **cooking for firefighters during wildfires, providing meals during the COVID-19 pandemic, sponsoring Little League and supporting St. Mary's of the Immaculate Conception**.

Oak & Rye represents the kind of long-standing, locally rooted culinary business the Golden Spoon Distinction was created to recognize: a restaurant that has made a sustained contribution not only to the dining experience in Los Gatos, but also to the broader culinary community and the community it calls home.

Telefèric Barcelona Los Gatos



Since opening in Old Town Los Gatos in 2022, **Telefèric Barcelona** has brought a distinctive Spanish culinary experience to downtown Los Gatos while becoming an active member of the local business and community landscape.

The family-owned restaurant group traces its roots to Barcelona, where the Padrosa family began its restaurant tradition in 1992. At the helm of Telefèric's culinary program is **Executive Chef Oscar Cabezas**, who trained at the renowned three-Michelin-starred Arzak in San Sebastián. Since joining Telefèric in 2013, Chef Oscar has helped preserve the family's Spanish culinary traditions while bringing his own creativity and international experience to the restaurants. Telefèric Barcelona's menu features Spanish tapas, made-to-order paella, jamón ibérico, and an extensive Spanish wine program and creative cocktails, creating an experience that is both authentic and distinctive.

Telefèric Barcelona has also embraced Los Gatos beyond its dining room. The restaurant has actively participated in the Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce's programs and events, including its **Shine Among the Stars Gala, GOLD Thursdays, Taste of Los Gatos, and hosting a forthcoming Chamber networking event**. Its catering and private-event capabilities bring Spanish cuisine to corporate gatherings, celebrations and community events throughout Los Gatos and the South Bay. The restaurant has additionally supported **Saint Andrew's Episcopal School, Lexington Elementary's Annual Fundraising Gala, the Los Gatos-Saratoga Observation Nursery School, and Los Gatos Lions Club Date Night**.

With its Barcelona roots, culinary pedigree, distinctive setting and sustained commitment to the Los Gatos community, Telefèric has helped expand the range of experiences that make Los Gatos a destination for dining and gathering.

Recognition at Taste of Los Gatos

Oak & Rye and Telefèric Barcelona Los Gatos will be officially recognized during **Taste of Los Gatos 2026** on Saturday, September 19, on the event's Main Stage at **1:30 PM**.

The Golden Spoon Distinction will be presented by **Congressman Sam Liccardo, Mayor Rob Moore, and Jennifer Lin, CEO of the Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce** in recognition of the honorees' contributions to the Los Gatos community and dining scene.



The Golden Spoon Distinction celebrates the restaurants and culinary leaders who do more than serve great food. It recognizes those who help shape the character of Los Gatos, strengthen the local business community, contribute to the community around them, and help make Los Gatos a destination worth visiting.

About the Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce

The Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce champions the business community by promoting economic vitality, strengthening member businesses, and helping residents and visitors discover the best of Los Gatos. Through programs and events such as Taste of Los Gatos, the Chamber brings businesses and the community together while elevating Los Gatos as a destination for dining, shopping, entertainment and experiences.

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