RICHMOND, Va. — The fourth annual Elby’s were held Sunday night, presented by Richmond magazine, with a record crowd of more than 500 guests in attendance—who provided entertaining tweets throughout the night.

Named after master chef Chef Paul Elbling who now oversees the French Food Festival, the Elbys are a huge, dazzling local event that recognizes and honors the work of local chefs and restaurateurs.

This year’s awards ceremony and reception were playfully themed “Studio 804,” for all the disco nostalgic fans of long-shuttered 'Studio 54' (hence the disco shoe award).

**Chef of the Year**

Joe Sparatta

**Restaurant of the Year**

Heritage, which Sparatta co-owns with his wife and brother-in-law. Sparatta, who was recently named a D.C. Rising Star Chef by star chefs.com

**Innovator Award**

Travis Milton, chef de cuisine at Comfort

**Best New Restaurant**
L'Opossum

Richmond Stalwart

Acacia mid-town

Rising Culinary Star

Brittany Anderson of Metzger Bar & Butchery

Cocktail Program

The Rogue Gentleman

Wine Program

Acacia mid-town

Beer Program

Saison

Employee of the Year

Kirby Baltzegar of Dutch & Co.

Purveyor of the Year

Autumn Olive Farms

Culinary Students of the Year

Jeremy Evans of Culinard, The Culinary Institute of Virginia College, and Holly Mitchell of J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College

More than 30 local industry professionals, food writers and culinary instructors selected nominees. Awardees were chosen by 11 separate panels of judges, one panel for each category, all from outside Richmond. Read more on Richmond magazine.
Southbound opens to enthusiastic diners south of the river

Celebrate the farm to table movement with celebrity chef Mario Batali

Touchdown Club of Richmond announces awards

Richmond restaurant owners speak out against city funding for Stone Brewing

Family members host a memorial 5K for their fallen soldier

Delicious details about tonight’s Jefferson Hotel Christmas tree lighting ceremony
Weekend Events: Celtic Fest & Highland Games, Pet Expo, Pumpkin Palooza Festival of the Grape and more

Zine Fest shines light on underground publications

Check out these gorgeous award-winning home remodels

Saucy’s Walk-Up Bar.B.Q. expands from original shipping container with help from local artists, designers

Heartbroken manager scrambles to help co-workers after Quaker Steak & Lube suddenly closes

Enjoy a week’s worth of great cuisine and help FeedMore fight hunger

Check out the 2014 November Festival Guide