SEASONALLY

HOLIDAY 2022 CATERING + EVENT INSPIRATION

GATHER TOGETHER

PARAMOUNT EVENTS™

COVER PAGE PHOTOGRAPHY BY CAILYNN WOLFGANG

Eat, Drink & Be Merry

The season of giving, gathering, and celebrating is here. We're bringing you a collection of holiday trends, hospitality hacks, sustainable ways to gift, tunes to play during dinner, and more. Seasonally: Holiday Edition, is here to bring you reasons to be merry and celebrate all season long.

PEPPERMINT MARTINI

WHAT'S ON THE MENU

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Hephzibah's Mission

1

Winter Ingredients

Although we don't always think of winter as being a time for bountiful produce and harvesting, there are still amazing items in-season that are perfect for cold-weather dishes.

The holiday season is a great time to shed light on winter seasonality, whether that's adding blood oranges to a grazing board, making a refreshing salad with beets, or creating delicious soups with squash, carrots, or kale.

WHAT'S IN SEASON

FRUITS	VEGETABLES
grapefruit	potatoes
orange	carrots
lemons	beets
limes	broccoli
apples	kale
pears	brussels sprouts

BEETS
Nutrient-packed, vibrant, and versatile, beets are great with citrus flavors, roasted on their own, or as an addition to some greens.

Winter Wedge Salad

Our menus at Paramount Events showcase Midwest seasonality. We work with local farmers and purveyors to provide fresh ingredients that ensure high-quality food. We also utilize our on-site greenhouse that grows herbs, edible flowers, and a bountiful amount of greens.

Pan-Roasted Chicken Breast

European Cookie Tin

2

Holiday Hosting Tips & Tricks

Our team is bringing insight, tips & tricks, and ways to be the perfect host this holiday season. Whether you're inviting friends over for a cocktail party or planning a sit-down dinner with our catering with our Paramount Events team.

CURRANT AFFAIRS
bourbon, black currant, sweet vermouth, lemon juice, herbsaint

KEEP IT SIMPLE
It's easy to get carried away when decorating for a party. Less is more. We recommend using a simple linen and fresh, seasonal greenery.

STAY OUT OF THE KITCHEN
Instead of cooking the entire time or pouring drinks for friends, consider hiring our team at Paramount Events to help you set up, plan, staff and execute your holiday party.

TAKE THE TREATS TO GO
Instead of setting up an elaborate dessert station after dinner, consider a mini sweets table for guests to enjoy on their way out the door.

PLAY A GAME
Whether you're catching up with familiar faces or trying to break the ice with new people, we recommend a game or two. This invites guests to mix & mingle together.

HAVE OPTIONS FOR EVERYONE
Vegan, non-dairy, and gluten-free options are always a must. Ask your guests about dietary-restrictions prior to planning your menu.

TURN UP THE TUNES
What's a party without music? Get your speakers charged up and ready to go. Create a playlist with a mix of holiday classics along with current top hits to get guests dancing!

MAKE A SIGNATURE COCKTAIL
Spruce up your evening with a fun cocktail that's perfect for any holiday fare. We recommend serving a zero proof option, for those not partaking in consumption of alcohol.

Pro tip: Pre-batch your drink in a beverage dispenser for a great visual component at your party.

CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM | PHOTOGRAPHY BY NATALIE PROBST

3

Classic Chicago Holiday Venues

At Paramount Events, we partner with exclusive venues around Chicago to make sure your event is top-tier. For the holiday season and overall colder weather, we chose three venues that are well-versed for intimate cocktail parties to largescale corporate celebrations.

1

CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM

Celebrate the traditional holiday season with classic Chicago architecture at Chicago History Museum. With a variety of floorplans, this venue is capable of corporate gatherings, weddings, and cocktail parties.

2

CHICAGO CULTURAL CENTER

Since opening in 1897, the Chicago Cultural Center has played a large role in the history of Chicago. With a wide range of venue spaces, all with beautiful stained glass and architectural elements, there's no way you won't want to celebrate here.

3

ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

Immerse your guests in an experience not just an event. With the variety of venue spaces, both modern and historic, the Art Institute of Chicago is a place to host any wedding, gala, or gathering.

OTHER EXCLUSIVE VENUE PARTNERS

At Paramount Events, we're partnered with over 100 venues around Chicago and surrounding areas. We will work with you to find the best venue space for you.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CAILYNN WOLFGANG

4

Dinner Mix

Set the tone at your dinner party with a playlist curated by DJ Megan Taylor. “Dinner Mix”, on Spotify, creates a calm, chill, welcoming-vibe to any gathering. Play it while cooking, hosting cocktail hour, or sitting around a table with friends and family. Scan below & jam out!

ABOUT DJ MEGAN TAYLOR

DJ Alchemist, Wellness Activist, & Travel Enthusiast. DJ Megan Taylor is an international DJ, frequently providing the soundtrack for the best parties and events in Chicago. She is part of the Fig Media Collective.

SCAN TO LISTEN ON SPOFITY

5

A Cup of Comfort

VOLITION TEA

With the changing seasons comes a transition to hot and cozy drinks. There's nothing quite like holding a warm cup of tea between your hands on a brisk fall morning, but have you ever wondered where the leaves used to make that tea come from? The process of taking tea from farm to table is a sizeable undertaking, but one that Annie Xiang chose to pursue in hopes of sharing the process with consumers.

In the beginning of her journey to starting Volition Tea, Annie Xiang was looking for tea companies that she felt matched the quality of tea she grew up with. It proved a difficult task to find loose-leaf teas of comparable commitment to sustainability and fair trade. She didn't feel that the same level of transparency existed in the tea market as did with bags of coffee. As Xiang began to envision a tea company of her own, she focused on the families of tea that were native to China, derived from Camellia Sinensis. She later launched Volition Tea – her own company that carried seven varieties of tea leaves from farmers across China. Xiang wanted to be certain that her tea would be sustainable for both consumers and villagers alike.

Now, Xiang is focusing on giving exposure to her small lineup of teas by taking them to cafes and farmers' markets. Her curated selection was based on what she felt might best appeal to western tea drinkers. Each package is printed with guidelines and specifics on weight, temperature, and steeping time. Xiang works to promote unblended, unflavored loose-leaf tea with the hope that it causes people to spend more time considering the source of their tea before making a purchase.

COLORFUL PEONY SINGLE-ORIGIN LOOSE LEAF TEA

FULL TEA CEREMONY

6

Gifting Sustainably

MARLEY FINNEGAN | **FOUNDER OF PURPOSE**

The most amazingly sustainable gifts are experiences. A unique experience can be thoughtfully tailored to the individual - down to a handmade card - while likely supporting local, small businesses - and the hospitality industry at large.

Arguably, the most heart-warming month can get even deeper through being intentional with your consumption. Cheers to having thoughtful diligence and a firm commitment to lowered holiday season waste.

ABOUT MARLEY FINNEGAN

With a background in the event industry for over 20 years, Marley understands the lifecycle of an event and the impact it has on the planet. Marley is a GRI Certified Sustainability Professional, Certified Sustainable Event Professional by the Events Industry Council and privately educated by the creator of MPI's Sustainable Event Strategist Certification, along with ISO 20121.

SUSTAINABLE GIFTING IDEAS

- cooking class
- hotel stay
- spa day
- sailing lesson
- pottery or art class
- jewelry making
- concert tickets
- theater tickets
- ice skating
- museum tickets
- picnic
- sporting events
- ice cream date

7 Spread kindness to those around you and those who need it more this year.

Our team at Paramount Events works with multiple organizations to give back, support, and help the community. The holiday season is a time to celebrate and help those who need it most.

Hephzibah Children's Association focuses on helping children and families in need. We volunteer year-round but especially during the holidays, from decorating their playground for Halloween to donating and purchasing toys for 200+ families.

For the past 11 years, we have cultivated a partnership with Hephzibah that aligns closely with our core values and mission. We support Hephzibah through a collaborative partnership that focuses on promoting Hephzibah's cause by curating annual events, participating in volunteer activities and furthering their mission with financial support.

hephzibah
CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION

SEASONALLY

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IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE TOGETHER!

PARAMOUNT EVENTS™

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT PARAMOUNT EVENTS

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