



Critics' Choice Winner

Best Signature Cocktail: Proof on Main

Signature cocktail lists have become as ubiquitous as wine lists at most upscale Louisville restaurants, and the most creative of these reflects the genius of a bartender who is equal parts mix master and mad scientist. The lab at Proof on Main (702 W. Main St. in the 21C Museum Hotel) wins the prize for innovation and taste with its Jalapina.

Made with Don Eduardo Silver Tequila and jalapeño-infused fresh pineapple juice, it creates a sensation on your tongue that is sweet up front and spicy in the back. It is served straight up, and despite the dynamic flavor, goes down very smoothly, even for those who don't

tolerate fire well. "The flavor combination really attracts people," says Brooks Reitz, assistant restaurant manager. "Spicy and sweet is not usually found in a cocktail." Sample this one and you — and your tongue — will say, "Ole!"

Readers' Choice Winners:

- New Restaurant (since 2006)
- 1 Proof on Main
 - 2 Jeff Ruby's
 - 3 Shiraz
 - 4 Mimi's Cafe
 - 5 Nios