

BEST OF COUNTY 2008 BOULDER

Our readers went to the polls to tell us what they love most about Boulder County, and here's what they had to say ...

Best of
Boulder
County '08



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BUFFA

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WEEKLY

Boulder Weekly **Best of Boulder County '08**

May 1, 2008 **3**

This February, Boulder was named #1 on the Forbes Magazine list of "The Smartest Cities in America." This isn't surprising, considering that Boulder has more advanced degrees per capita than any other U.S. city, according to U.S. census data. But that's hardly the only great thing about Boulder. In fact, the sheer volume of this town's attractive qualities can be daunting at times.

With so many notable people and places in Boulder, the task of narrowing things down to the best of the best is a hefty feat. So when faced with the project of finding what makes Boulder such a great place to live, we figured it just made sense to ask all those smarty-pants people who dwell in the wonderful little bubble we call "The People's Republic." In short, we asked you — our readers — what you think is the

"Best of Boulder County."

In this, our 13th annual issue highlighting the best of Boulder County's food, drink, fitness, entertainment and retail options, we asked you about more topics than ever before. Now that we've tallied the votes — and added some of our own brainy opinions of our favorite spots around town — we are ready to announce the winners.

No one knows this town like the people who make it the fun and funky, conscientious and colorful, fit and healthy — and, frankly, sometimes weird — place that it is. In the following pages, discover what your fellow Boulderites count as the best of the best — the Best of Boulder County. We hope you'll find this issue to be enlightening and entertaining, and if your No. 1 pick didn't win this year, don't forget to vote them into the top spot in 2009.



NEW RESTAURANT

Organic Orbit

1200 Yarmouth Ave., 303-440-8348

Runner-up: Bimbamboo

Honorable Mention: Buddha Café, SoBo
Bistro, Ruby's Diner

"We must not forget that we are an agrarian based society. Our food supply is our most important link with nature, the source of our energy. The most intelligent priority of our time," explains Phil Thyen, the founder and director of Boulder County's Best New Restaurant, **Organic Orbit**, on the restaurant's website. Organic Orbit's concept of "eco-fine dining" — which they define as "sourcing, creating and eating food that is provided by nature" — is a way of thinking about food that is a comfortable approach for many of Boulder's conscientious citizens. The first Organic Orbit was a casual eatery that opened in Denver in 1998. In 2007, the founder brought the concept to Boulder in the form of an elegant evening dining experience with a casual daytime component. Dedicated to making a difference on the planet, Organic Orbit's mission is to reconnect with nature through food. Considering Boulder's reputation for concern about the health of the planet and personal health and wellbeing, it's no surprise that our readers chose this eco-eatery as the county's Best New Restaurant.