



## **Portland Speed Rack Recap**

On Sunday, October 23, Speed Rack helped wind down Portland Cocktail Week (PDXCW) in style! Held at the Left Bank Annex in the early afternoon, the place was buzzing by 11am as the preliminaries began. Featuring bartenders from Portland, as well as Seattle and even Pittsburg and New Orleans, competition was tough. The top eight girls who qualified to compete were: Mykla Anderson (The Bitter End Pub), Anu Apte (Rob Roy, Seattle), Missy Cross (Sun Liquor, Seattle), Beckaly Franks (JoBar), Jade Godfrey (Bend, OR), Lacy Hawkins (Luc Loc/Marriott), Alise Michele (Bunk Bar) and Kimberly Patton-Bragg (New Orleans).

Doors opened to the public at 1pm and guests were treated to sponsors' punches and cocktails, as well as beer and non-alcoholic offerings served from five bars. VIPs included Ted Haigh (Dr. Cocktail), Kathy Casey, Robert Hess and Eric Alperin, as well as media from various trade and consumer publications. 4<sup>th</sup> Row Films was also on hand to film the event for their upcoming cocktail documentary. LUPEC Portland ladies kept the crowd engaged and offered kisses from a kissing booth, while a table was set up to display the amazing prizes in the raffle from places like Luc Loc, Beaker & Flask, BG Reynolds, House Spirits Distillery and many more. DJ Nick Van Tiel kept the house rocking in between rounds and set a high-energy mood by spinning fun songs for each bout.

In front of a packed house of about 200 people, the competition began. Prominent industry figures Misty Kalkofen, Audrey Saunders and Charlotte Voisey were joined by local celebrity drag queen Poison Waters to serve as the judges for the afternoon. The round began with the judges each calling out a drink for the girls to make. The contestants had to make the drinks as quickly – and as accurately – as possible. The judges then compared the girls' drinks side by side and issued penalty seconds to the girls for any mistakes made. The girl with the lowest time was declared the winner and moved on to the next round. 6 heated battles ensued, until we were down to the final two: Lacy Hawkins and Missy Cross. By a slim margin, Missy Cross from Seattle was declared the winner. She will be representing the Pacific Northwest in the finals in NYC in May.

A fun time was had by all, and most importantly, about \$3,600 was raised for breast cancer research, education and prevention.

Catch us on our next stop at the Blossom Room at the Hollywood Roosevelt in Los Angeles on November 13 from 3pm-7pm.

**Full list of competitors:**

Melissa Cross* winner	Sun Liquor Seattle
Sarah Rehmann	H50 Portland
Alise Michele	Bunk Bar Portland
Allison Hunt	Circa 33/Central Portland
Jenn Hegstrom	Pope House Portland
Mindy Kucan	Beaker and Flask Portland
Becca June	Cocktail Cart Portland
Jade Godfrey	Bend OR
Erika Joyner	Pittsburgh
Mykla Anderson	The Bitter End Pub
Beckaly Franks	JoBar Portland
Lydia Reissmueller	TenderBar Consulting
Lacy Hawkins	Luc Loc/Marriot Portland
Kimberly Patton Bragg	Tamarind (New Orleans)

**Photos**



Judges Audrey Saunders, Charlotte Voisey, Misty Kalkofen, Poison Waters



Winner Missy Cross and runner up Lacy Hawkins

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