

# 28 years of chocolate: Sweet Bisbee event returns to town this weekend

By Emily Ellis

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BISBEE — Looking for an unusual — and tasty — activity this Saturday night? Take your Valentine, your mother, or simply yourself to the Annual Bisbee Chocolate Tasting, where local and commercial bakers will have a variety of sweet treats laid out throughout the historic halls of the Central School Project.

Proceeds from the event support programs at the Copper Queen Library, so you can feel good about indulging, said Vicki Walton, of organization Friends of the Copper Queen Library.

Last year, the tasting raised about \$8,000 dollars, which went toward new computers, fans, and the wide variety of free programs and workshops that the library offers, she said.

“It’s been a great event — the thing that’s cool about it is that it’s so community oriented. We have home bakers do the baking, and I think it’s cool that the day of the event you see people marching into the central school project to hand over their chocolate specialities,” Walton said.

Seventy-eight home bakers and 11 commercial bakers have signed up to contribute their delicacies to the tasting this year, which will include candies, cookies, cakes and whatever else you can imagine, Walton said. Ticket holders can choose six desserts to sample.

And while the event is definitely kid-friendly, beer and wine for the grown-ups will also be available for a suggested donation.

“It’s a lot of fun when the event comes, it’s one of those that takes a lot to put together,” said Walton, adding that prep for the annual event started a year prior. “There’s an awful lot of organization that goes into it.”

Attendees will also be able to try their hand at winning a variety of donated arts, crafts and gift certificates in a silent auction and raffle, although the star of the show is definitely chocolate — and the generous Bisbee locals who prepare it.

“Some of them have been baking for the tasting for 28 years,” Walton said. “t’s a lot of fun when the event comes.”

To learn more about the event, visit [visibisbeechocolatetasting.com](http://visibisbeechocolatetasting.com).

## **If You Go**

What: 28th Annual Bisbee Chocolate Tasting

Where: Central School Project, 43 Howell Ave., Bisbee, AZ 85603

When: 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Cost: \$15, which allows holders six samples of chocolate. Tickets can be purchased the night of the event, or through the night of through [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) in advance. High Market Cafe, the Copper Queen Library, Finders Keepers, and Bisbee Olive Oil will also have tickets available for purchase.