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Photo Credit: Sean Hamrock

WINNERS TAKE ALL BEFORE THE RACE EVEN STARTED Tip Hats to Tradition in Celebration of the 138th Kentucky Derby

They won big before the race even started, taking home top prizes at Empire City Casino's first-ever Derby Hat Contest to celebrate the 138th Kentucky Derby.

Pictured here are the winners and judges:

Winners for Most Fashionable: \$500 1st place: Danielle Cacciatore of Suffolk County
 \$250 2nd place: Christine Sawyer of Westchester County
 \$100 3rd place: Kelly Ann O'Hanlon of Rockland County

Winners for Most Creative: \$500 1st place: Maria Carrion of Bronx County
 \$250 2nd place: Antoinette Panico of Bronx County
 \$100 3rd place: Yvonne Garvin of Westchester County

Also pictured are the esteemed judges: **April Pesick**, racing enthusiast and Assistant Publicist for Yonkers Raceway, **Senator Andrea Stewart Cousins**, **Assembly Member Shelley Mayer**, **Yonkers City Council President Chuck Lesnick**, **Standardbred Owners Association President Joe Faraldo**, and **WHUD Host of the Mike & Kacey Morning Show, Mike Bennett**.

"It's great to see racing fans come together for such a historic sports tradition," said **Bob Galterio, Chief Operating Officer at Empire City**. "We are proud to have such a distinguished panel of judges for our first-ever derby hat contest, and such tremendous participation on the part of contestants. It was a fun and exciting event for everyone involved."

"It's great that we can celebrate the Kentucky Derby at Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway this year," said **Assemblywoman Shelley Mayer**. "A hat contest is a fitting tribute to this special race and its traditions, and I am honored to participate in judging the finest hats in the contest."

Yonkers City Council President Chuck Lesnick remarked, "The Kentucky Derby is an event steeped in history and tradition. Not only does the Derby celebrate the finest in horse racing but it brings people together to revel in the excitement of both sports and fashion."



Winners & Judges Photo Credit: Sean Hamrock

Derby Hat Contest

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About Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway

Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway features: 5,300 slot machines, video roulette, electronic craps and baccarat tables, Italian dining in Nonno's Trattoria, and trackside dining in the Empire Terrace Restaurant, which overlooks the track for live harness racing, as well as the International Food Court and its wide-ranging menu. The multi-faceted Good Time Room is available for parties, benefits, weddings, and major events for up to 400. Empire City Casino is located at 810 Yonkers Avenue (at Central Avenue) in Yonkers, New York, Westchester County, (I-87 to Exit 2). Empire City Casino is open seven days a week, every day from 9:00am to 4:00am.

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