

Newsday

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Chef's
**TASTING
MENUS**

JOAN JETT
*L.I.'s Rock and
Roll Hall of Fame
Inductee*

HOMEDESIGN

SPRING FASHION, HOT CONVERTIBLES, BABYLON: A VIBRANT COMMUNITY



Artists & Writers Night at Almond, a lively discussion and a delicious meal. Photo credit: Lindsay Morris. Right: Co-owners, Eric Lemonides, Jason Weiner and Almond Zigmund. Photo credit: Daniel Gonzales.



ALMOND

A HAMPTONS EATERIE WHERE CREATIVES BREAK BREAD AND FEED IMAGINATIONS

By Marie Wolf

Solitude can be a double-edged sword for the creative mind. On one hand, stillness can unleash creativity; on the other, a reclusive life can dull the creative spirit.

Almond is located at One Ocean Road, Bridgehampton; almondrestaurant.com

Almond Zigmund, an east end sculptor and painter can attest to this. She says life for artists and writers on the east end of Long Island during the winter months can be a "solitary." So, Zigmund, in an attempt to create a space where artists and writers could gather for inspiration, camaraderie and good meal, founded the "Artists and Writers Night Dinner Series." It is held, incidentally, at Almond, a Bridgehampton bar and restaurant which Zigmund co-owns with her husband and chef, Jason Weiner and Eric Lemonides.

"Historically artists and writers gather at bars to be social and share what they've been thinking about," says Zigmund. With that in mind, she orchestrated the Series, offering a three-course meal with a drink, along with a lively themed exchange of ideas prompted by various guest artists who host the evening. "I invite an artist to host and then we develop a program for the evening." The food served also fits the theme. To date, the dinners have been

hosted by poets, artists, fiction writers, puppeteers, storytellers, musicians and performance artists.

Now in its third season, the Series typically runs from the end of September through March. "We have a nice core group of people who have been coming, but it grows and expands. It's a mix of regulars and new people. It feels like a community." To bridge the old and the newcomers and foster conversation, the meal is served family style at Almond, which serves locally sourced American cuisine. The restaurant happens to be celebrating its 15th year at its Bridgehampton location this coming April.

The Artists and Writers Night Dinner Series will conclude with one last dinner scheduled this March. Zigmund says the Series is open to all, however, advanced seating is required. For date, time and details go to: [Facebook/pages/Almond-Artist-and-Writers](https://www.facebook.com/Almond-Artist-and-Writers).