

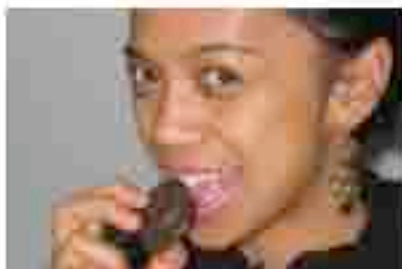
Digging in

Tasty morsels about Chicago's food scene

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JANET RAUSA FULLER



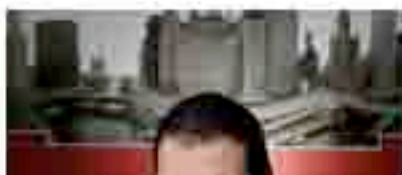
Sun-Times Food editor Janet Rausa Fuller is always thinking about her next meal.

LISA DONOVAN



For almost 20 years now, reporter Lisa Donovan has been hitting Chicago's neighborhood markets and restaurants not only for the best grub at the best prices but also as a way to understand the city's melting pot.

JAMES SCALZITTI



Beard Awards: From the Red Carpet

By [Janet Fuller](#) on May 4, 2009 6:06 PM | [Permalink](#) | [Comments \(0\)](#)

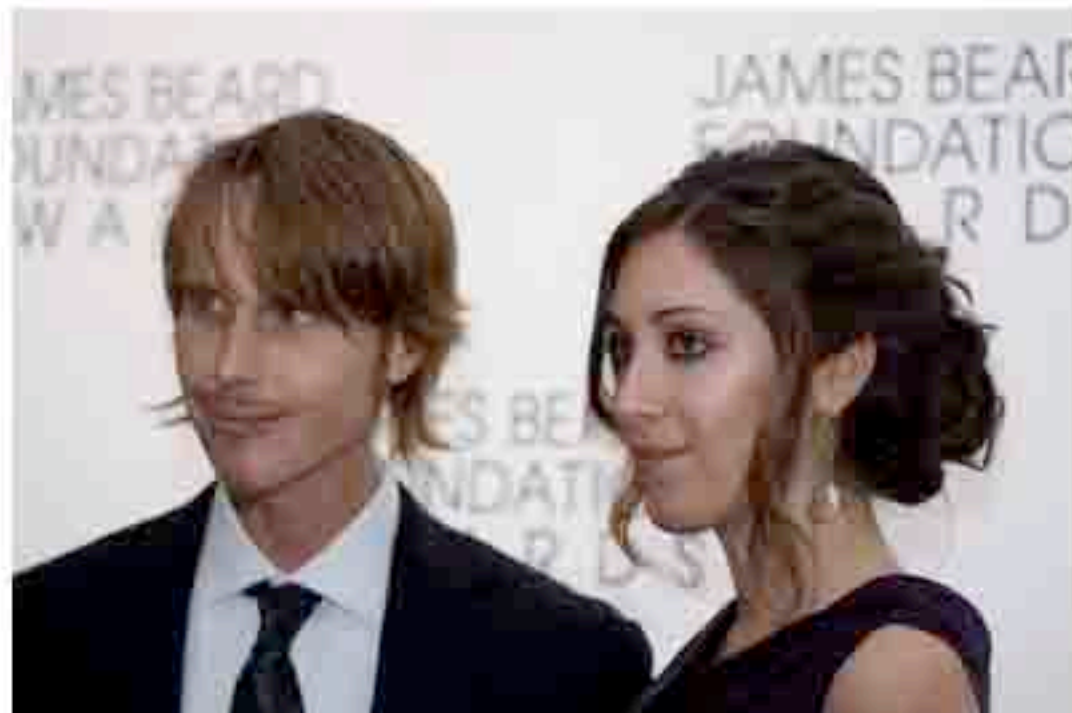
By guest blogger and New York writer Seanan Forbes:

Even dressed to the nines for the James Beard Awards, Grant Achatz still looks like an ebullient adolescent.

Asked what's exciting him lately, he cocks his head and says, "the James Beard Awards". Achatz's girlfriend, Heather, whispers, "Japan." "We just got back from Japan." Achatz says the trip was inspiring. "It was amazing. We were in Tokyo and Kyoto. Kyoto's it."

Achatz has been giving inspiration to many people -- not just in [Alinea](#) the restaurant, but also in the cookbook of the same name. The hardcover Alinea has been nominated for Cooking from a Professional Point of View. At last year's awards, Achatz took Outstanding Chef. A few hours from now, we'll know whether he's bringing an authorial award back to Chicago, as well.

Come what may, Achatz looks to be having a fine young time.



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