



Golden Snowball Trophy

The Golden Snowball Trophy Stays in Buffalo (It's a threepeater!)

Winters of:

2023-24, 2022-23 & 2021-22

During the winter of 2023-24 Buffalo, once again, won the Golden Snowball award - the snowiest city in New York State with a seasonal total of 71.3 inches.

Buffalo has now won the award in 4 of the last 6 years!

When not on tour, the trophy resides within the department of Geosciences at Buffalo State University. Stephen Vermette serves as custodian of the trophy while in Buffalo: vermetjsj@buffalostate.edu.

Click on logo to read stories about this years competition:



THE NEW
96.1
THE 90s TO NOW!



[BN]
[BN]

My appreciation to the many who hosted the trophy on its tour over the past two years. Looking forward to another year of tour coming up.

Buffalo is the Snowiest City in New York State

(Winters of 2021-22, 2022-23 & 2023-24)

Back-to-back-to-back years!

97.4, 133.6 & 71.3 inches





The 2024-25 Golden Snowball Trophy Tour

July 19th to August 2nd
August 6th to 26th
January 9th....

West Falls Colden Community Library
Chef's Restaurant, Buffalo
Buffalo Brewing Company, Buffalo



Patrons at Chef's were asked to snap a selfie.

The Buffalo Brewing Company has brewed a second batch of Golden Snowbeer. Snow from the January '24 storm (several spots in Erie county reported over 3 feet of snow) is the unique ingredient added to the brew – “a blizzard in every bottle”.

Visit the Myrtle Ave. Tap Room to see the trophy and taste the beer created in its honor.

When not on tour, the trophy resides in a display case within the Science and Mathematics Building at Buffalo State College. Please contact Stephen Vermette at vermetstj@buffalostate.edu if you are interested in displaying the trophy.



Transfer to Syracuse

The City of Buffalo has held the trophy over the past three years (2021-2024), and now it is time to send it to this year's winner – Syracuse. A send-off celebration took place in the Buffalo Brewing Company's tap room on Saturday, June 7th and Mayor Walsh was present to accept the trophy on behalf of Syracuse. For Buffalo, there is always next year!

Golden Snowball Totals for the 2024 - 2025 Snow Totals Updated 4/29/25 8:00 PM

GSB Cities	The 2024 - 2025 Snow Season	Normal Average to Date	This Time Last Season	Normal Seasons Average	All Time Season Snowfall Record
Syracuse	115.4	127.7	60.8	127.8	192.1 inches (1992 - 1993)
Rochester	88.3	101.9	52.5	102.0	161.7 inches (1959 - 1960)
Binghamton	80.1	86.4	47.8	86.5	135.2 inches (2016 - 2017)
Buffalo	77.3	95.4	71.3	95.4	199.4 inches (1976 - 1977)
Albany	43.9	59.1	31.8	59.2	112.5 inches (1970 - 1971)



The trophy's transfer



John Dormes (left) owner of Buffalo Brewing Company and home of Buffalo's Golden Snowbeer, and Stephen Vermette (right).



Mayor Walsh holding the trophy

[Sean Kirst: After Buffalo shows the way, the Golden Snowball comes home to Syracuse](#)

Below are trophy highlights from the previous two years



Golden Snowball Trophy

The Golden Snowball Trophy Stays in Buffalo (It's a twopeater!)

During the winter of 2022-23 Buffalo once again won two snow-related awards! With a seasonal total of 133.6 inches, Buffalo was the snowiest city in New York State (Golden Snowball Award) and the snowiest city (100,000+) in the United States (Snow Globe Award).

Stephen Vermette (Department of Geosciences at Buffalo State University) serves as custodian of the trophy while in Buffalo: vermettsj@buffalostate.edu.

A commemorative beer (snow is the secret ingredient) is being brewed in Buffalo (Buffalo Brewing Company) in honor of Buffalo's recognition. "Golden Snowbeer" will be available by mid-July.

Stories about the competition (click logo) →



Stories of 'Golden Snowbeer' (click logo) →



The Golden Snowball trophy and Golden Snowbeer are more than just about snow. Both recognize that snow has been, and continues to be, very much a part of Buffalo and WNY (engrained in our DNA) – whether one is drawn to its beauty, snow sports, or curse the burdens it brings. It is certainly a Buffalo identifier for folks living outside of WNY. Both the good and bad of snow is what binds our city and region and exemplifies why we are a "City of Good Neighbors". It's a WNY Thing. We live it!



Adding the snow



Good mojo from trophy



Extracted "wort" – a first look at the quality



A collectable can!



Buffalo Brewing Company

July 10 at 10:19 AM · 🌐

Introducing The Golden Snowbeer! 🌨️
Brewed exclusively for the snowiest city in upstate NY, this cream ale is a tribute to Buffalo, reigning champ of snowfall records two years in a row. 🏆 Join us at Myrtle Tap room this Thursday at 4pm to taste this golden delight dry hopped with cascade hops. ❄️ Don't miss out on the 5.5% ABV snow-inspired refreshment! Let's raise a glass to winter wonders! ❄️



Buffalo Brewing Company

6d · 🌐

The Mayor didn't want this, so we thought it would look nice in our case.



Springville

Campus House
Buffalo State



Official
winners



West Seneca Library



Hamburg Library



Aurora Waldorf
School



Blueberry
Treehouse Café,
serving snowbeer



West
Falls
Post
Office

Becker Farms





Golden Snowball Trophy

The Golden Snowball Trophy Comes to Buffalo!

During the winter of 2021-22 Buffalo won two snow-related awards! With a seasonal total of 97.4 inches, Buffalo was the snowiest city in New York State (Golden Snowball Award) and the snowiest city (100,000+) in the United States (Snow Globe Award).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golden_Snowball_Award

<https://goldensnowball.com/>

<https://goldensnowglobe.com/>

Story of Trophy's Arrival in Buffalo (click logo)



WNY Tour (2022-23)

August 31st

September 3rd & 4th

September 17th

September 18th

October 8th to December 5th

November 4th

December 7th to 25th

January 13th

January 21st

January 25th to February 1st

February 18th

February 25th

March 18th to 31st

April 4th to 25th

Buffalo State College Bookstore

2022 National Buffalo Wing Festival (Wingfest)

NY Geog. Alliance meeting, Lockport Locks & Erie Canal Cruises

Weather presentation at Kenmore Presbyterian Church

Buffalo Museum of Science. Accompanying the exhibit "Snow: Tiny Crystals, Global Impact"

National Weather Service (NWS) Winter SKYWARN training

Vidler's 5 & 10 Store (window display), East Aurora, NY

Winter Faire, Aurora Waldorf School, West Falls, NY

Winter Wonderland Ecology Day at Beaver Meadow Audubon Nature Center

BFLO Store, Transitown Plaza, 4199 Transit Rd.

Brewski at Knox Farm State Park. 42North Brewing Company

Off Beat Cinema, WBBZ-TV, Midnight (Movie showing: Night Tide)

Russell's Steaks, Chops, and More (selfie area)

The Buffalo & Erie County Central Public Library (Downtown)

See a few photos on next page

Mayoral offices of winning cities receive temporary possession of the Golden Snowball trophy for the year. In 2018-19 Buffalo won the award but became the first city to refuse the trophy. To avoid a repeat refusal this year, the Department of Geography & Planning at SUNY Buffalo State is hosting the trophy on behalf of the City of Buffalo. Stephen Vermette serves as custodian of the trophy: vermettsj@buffalostate.edu



Thank you: Patrick DeCoursey who keeps the snow tallies on his website <https://goldensnowball.com> and helps keep the contest alive; to Jay Tokasz (Buffalo News) who helped nudge the trophy to Buffalo; to Sean Kirst (Buffalo News) who conveyed the true meaning of the trophy, to Niagara Awards (Kenmore, NY) which engraved Buffalo's plaque (paid for by Mr. Warren Glover), to Mary Perrelli who keeps this page active, and to the many of you who were involved in displaying the trophy and/or conveying to me your appreciation that the trophy is back in Buffalo

Vidler's 5 & 10 Store



BFLO Store

Russell's Steaks, Chops, and More



Off Beat Cinema, WBBZ-TV

Buffalo Wing Festival



Brewski at Knox Farm State Park. 42North Brewing Company



Buffalo's Downtown Library

