



sideBar's Peanut Butter Cup Cocktail (PHOTOS: MELISSA HORN/METROMIX)



Southern Hospitality's gummy filled Creek Water Bucket

# Halloween for the 21+ crowd

Too old to ask for candy? Try liquor-treating

BY CRISTINA VELOCCI  
Metromix.com

Just because you've stopped trick-or-treating doesn't mean you can't indulge your sweet tooth on Halloween. Yes, there's half-priced candy at drugstores on Nov. 1, but there's also something better: liquor-treating. Consider it the grown-up version of the treasured childhood pastime, only less awkward and more expensive. We scoured the city for candy-inspired cocktails resembling classic Halloween treats that'll put you on a sugar high.

## Peanut Butter Cup Cocktail, \$12

sideBAR  
118 E. 15th St. at Irving Place,  
212-677-2900

Just as there's no wrong way to eat a Reese's, there's no wrong way to drink this creamy concoction made with Frangelico hazelnut liqueur, DeKuyper butterscotch liqueur, Godiva chocolate liqueur, Creme de Cacao and a splash of Bailey's. Request your glass rimmed in Nutella and/or chocolate sauce. By double-dipping with both, the drink truly resembles the flavor of a peanut butter cup.



Delicatessen's Candy Corn Cocktail

## Bazooka Martini, \$13

Tailor  
525 Broome St., between Sullivan and Thompson Sts., 212-334-5182  
"If you're a wise-a-- bartender like me, green apple martinis are basically bubble gum drinks," says Eben Freeman, Tailor's mixologist. "Kids come in for bubble drinks, so I thought, 'If they want bubble gum drinks, I'm just going to give them a bubble gum drink.'" Freeman says it's a drink everyone can enjoy. "It's the idea of being connected to childhood memories. Even big guys like David Chang [Momofuku Ko's owner] and Josh Eden [owner of Shorty's .32] come here and drink this because it touches a part of you."

## Candy Corn Cocktail, \$12

Delicatessen  
54 Prince St. at Lafayette Street, 212-226-0211  
Candy corn is arguably the fruitcake of Halloween. So it's high time the triangular treat gets its moment to



KeyBar's Rolo Shot



Pop Lounge's Red Vines Lemonade

shine. In this cocktail, simple syrup dyed orange sinks to the bottom of the martini glass. Then, corn puree is blended with Stoli vanilla vodka for the yellow middle of the drink, which is topped with whipped cream thinned into a shake-like consistency. It's an unlikely, drinkable dessert, but one that works. The initial creamy, marshmallow flavor turns sweet and mealy with a super-saturated sugary walk-off that tastes exactly like real candy corn.

## Red Vines Lemonade, \$15

Pop Lounge  
14 E. 58th St., between Madison and Fifth avenues, 212-991-6644  
Pop Lounge manager Michael Marinoff soaks Red Vine twists — red licorice similar to Twizzlers that's considered the original Hollywood movie candy — in Level vodka for three days to infuse the liquor with its red color and cherry flavor. When combined with spiked lemonade, it makes for a zesty pink drink.

## Q&A

WITH  
SUNITA LOFTERS

BY LINCOLN CHINERY  
Metromix.com

If you drop by the Lower East Side's Sunita Bar, Sunita Lofters would be glad to mix you up a jalapeño passion fruit martini.

### What inspired this specialty drink?

I was born in British Guyana, a tropical country, so passion fruit is something I've been familiar with. And the jalapeño — it's such a hearty flavor. So I mixed it with the passion fruit, which could tolerate a little spice. I infuse the jalapeño in the vodka so it starts off really hot.

### What's the crowd like on a typical night?

A large percentage are regular customers. It's a very laid-back, neighborly type of place. The way it's set up is conducive for conversations. It's like an extension of my living room.

### Why did you name the bar after yourself?

The bar actually didn't have a name for the first two years. I didn't feel comfortable naming it after myself, so I was taking suggestions, but regular customers just started calling the place Sunita.

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