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it's summer!*

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SIX DOLLARS JULY 2016

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Perfect Patios

Three inspired choices for dining alfresco

IN THE MOOD
The charming patio at The Front Yard restaurant at The Garland.

EL TEJANO

Tex-Mex is the theme for the new restaurant that is scheduled to open up in July in the old Bow & Truss spot. The best news: the Texan-size 2,000-square-foot decomposed granite outdoor patio remains intact. Sip one of El Tejano's margaritas or a "Frozen Beerita" at the open-air bar and then settle into an umbrella-topped table for tacos, Frito pie and chili con carne. El Tejano comes from the team behind The Federal and Big Wags—also in NoHo—and Topsy Cow in Sherman Oaks.

11122 West Magnolia Blvd., North Hollywood
eltejano.com

VITELLO'S

Having a quiet alfresco dinner in the heart of bustling Studio City sounds like a stretch, but Vitello's makes it possible. Situated in quaint Tujunga Village, the Italian eatery (just voted one of the 100 "hottest restaurants in America" by Open Table) created a generous patio that stretches onto the sidewalk, during a renovation a few years ago. While nibbling on tiramisu (worth every calorie—trust us), enjoy crooning from the delightful Angela Parrish, at the piano Wednesday through Sunday evenings.

4349 Tujunga Ave, Studio City
vitellosrestaurant.com

THE FRONT YARD

With seating that includes cushioned, cozy lounge areas, the spacious patio at The Front Yard is the kind of place where you can spend an entire evening. Set back off Vineland, nestled on the grounds of The Garland, it feels quiet, intimate and kicked back; a resort-like atmosphere that is rarely found in the Valley. Order a full meal or share small plates (the tuna tartare tacos are our personal favorite) on the patio area. Happy hour runs from 4 to 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. to closing, seven days a week.

4222 Vineland Ave., North Hollywood
thefrontyardla.com