



Los Angeles International Spirits Competition Winners Announced ***Whiskey Takes Top Award***

POMONA, CA (June 1, 2018) – A bourbon whiskey took the top spot of the Los Angeles International Spirits Competition. W.L. Weller 12 Year Old Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey with 96 Points. Q Drinks – Q Grapefruit took Best of Show in the mixers category with 93 points.

Judged in May using a point system, the 2018 spirits competition had 402 Spirits entries from 142 producers. For the past five years, mixers have had their own competition being that so many entries are received in this non-alcoholic product category.

Besides the two Best of Shows, the competition also awarded 46 Best of Category Awards, 9 Best of Division Awards, 243 Gold Medal Awards, 128 Silver Medal Awards and 23 Bronze Medal Awards.

The competition received spirits from 27 countries: Australia, Austria, Barbados, Brazil, Canada, China, Finland, France, Germany, Haiti, Holland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Puerto Rico, Scotland, South Africa, Trinidad, Ukraine, United Kingdom and the United States. The panel of judges hailed from throughout the United States.

Other top winners included:

- Best of Whiskey: W. L. WELLER 12 YEAR OLD KENTUCKY STRAIGHT BOURBON WHISKEY Whiskey/Whisky, Straight Bourbon 6 years or older \$24.99 96 Points
- Best of Gin: SAKURAO ORIGINAL Gin (Unflavored i.e., Botanicals added prior to or during distillation) 93 Points
- Best of Shochu: SATO NO AKEBONO GOLD Shochu, Genshu (undiluted) Brown Sugar \$20, 94 Points
- Best of Vodka: NEW AMSTERDAM VODKA Vodka, Wheat (Unflavored) \$13.99, 94 Points
- Best of Brandy: E & J DISTILLERS VSOP, Brandy, Armagnac VSOP or comparable \$12.99, 95 Points
- Best of Liqueurs: MARTINI & ROSSI RISERVA SPECIALE BITTER LIQUEUR Liqueurs, Amaro/Bitter \$26.99, 93 Points
- Best of Tequila: HERRADURA ANEJO 100% Blue Agave Tequila, Mexico, Anejo \$56.99, 92 Points

A complete list of winners is available at www.laspiritscomp.com.

The public will get its first opportunity to taste the medal-winning spirits at [Cheers – L.A.'s Wine, Spirits, Beer & Food Festival](#) June 23. Cheers features the award winners from all the Los Angeles International Competitions (beer, wine, spirits and extra virgin olive oils) as well as food from local restaurants and dancing. Winners will also be available for tasting at the [LA County Fair](#), Aug. 31- Sept. 27. The Fair features a complete wine/spirits/beer education program taught by industry experts.

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