



Los Angeles International Wine, Spirits & Beer Competitions Accepting Entries

Pomona, CA (Jan. 14, 2016) – The Los Angeles International Wine, Spirits and Beer Competitions are accepting entries for 2016. Celebrating the best vintages, distilled beverages and craft beers, the prestigious competitions set the gold standard among award events.

The senior of the three, the 77th annual Los Angeles International Wine Competition has showcased the finest domestic and international vintages through a wine-tasting event that is widely considered to be one of the most prestigious in the United States. An esteemed panel of judges uses a blind-tasting method, maintaining the highest standards of integrity and professionalism that has remained the competition's foundation for more than seven decades.

The wine competition is May 18 & 19 at Fairplex, the home of the LA County Fair located in Southern California. Deadline to enter for domestic wines is April 15; international, April 30. Details and entry information can be found at www.lawinecomp.com.

Since its introduction in 2007, the Los Angeles International Spirits Competition has become *the* competition for judging distilled beverages. Spirits' respected panel of judges – which includes major wholesalers, restaurateurs and retailers – also uses a blind-tasting method to award medals to the best spirits from around the world. The Spirits competition is May 10 & 11; deadline for entries is April 15. For international entries: if you don't have an importer, that's no problem. The Competition will provide the necessary documentation for U.S. Customs. Details and entry info: www.laspiritscomp.com.

Beer has seen a renaissance the past few years with the popularity of microbreweries and craft beers. The Los Angeles International Commercial Beer Competition accepts beer and craft beer. The competition is April 9 & 10. Early bird deadline is March 1 (entry fee \$50); regular deadline is March 16 (entry fee \$60). Details and entry info: www.labeercomp.com.

The competitions are the platform for an extensive wine, spirits and beer education program available to nearly 1.3 million visitors at the annual LA County Fair. The Fair's Wine, Beer & Spirits Marketplace education center features consumer-driven classes, tastings and displays of the award-winning entries from the competitions. Committed to educating the public, the Fair's adult beverage education program features industry experts with extensive knowledge about wine growing and selection, brewing and tasting as well as food pairings.

Fairplex is a private, non-profit 501(c)5, self-funding organization that is not governed by the county or state, and receives no government subsidies for daily business operations. Under the direction of the Los Angeles County Fair Association, we exist to build stronger communities and, through our businesses and The Learning Centers, provide education, entertainment and fun to Southern California.

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