



Los Angeles International Wine & Spirits Competitions Announce Winners
A Cab Franc and Pinot Score Highest Points; Cabs Take Most Gold

POMONA, CA (March 29, 2022) – A 2019 Cabernet Franc and a 16 years Rum from Trinidad & Tobago took the top spots at the 2022 Los Angeles International Wine & Spirits Competitions. Brecon Estate’s Cabernet Franc, Reserve, Adelaida District, Paso Robles 2019 earned the highest points in wine, with 99 points, Best of Class, Gold Medal designation. In Spirits, Zaya Rum (Cane Spirits), Overproof Rum, Alta Fuerza, 16 Years, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO took Best of Show, Best of Class and a Gold Medal with 94 points.

After a two-year hiatus due to the coronavirus pandemic, wines were judged in early March using a point system, the wine competition saw more than 1,250 international wines tasted. Many varietals and price ranges were represented, with the point system acknowledging each varietal’s special attributes and providing a level of precision in the competition’s wine ranking systems, a benefit for the competition and wine enthusiasts. Wines were tasted by an international panel comprised of judges ranging from Master Sommeliers, wine marketers, buyers, chefs and wine writers. There were a total of 135 Best of Class Awards, 313 Gold Medal Awards, 567 Silver Medal Awards and 251 Bronze Medal Awards.

The competition received wines from 15 countries: Argentina, Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, and the United States.

Wine Chairwoman Spreti Valente said it was great to have judges back after such a long break.

“Our judges’ dedication to bringing the best wines to the public and to our wine education classes at the LA County Fair did not waver during the break and I, for one, cannot wait till fair time to start our wine education classes with the judges and winning wines! The public deserves to drink the best wines and we are eager to tell Los Angelenos who those winners are!”

Along with the Cab Franc, the wines and sake with the most points are:

- Best Of Class, Gold Medal – 98 Points
 - Peller Estates Winery Icewine, Riesling, VQA Niagara Peninsula 2019
 - pureCru Sparkling Rose, CUVEE XXI, California 2021
 - Sakari Sake www.nihonsakari.co.jp Flavored Sake, Yuzu, Japan Gold - Series
- Best Of Class, Gold Medal - 97 Points
 - Eberle Winery Muscat, Estate, Paso Robles 2021
- Best Of Class, Gold Medal - 96 Points
 - Chateau des Arras Bordeaux AOC, Cuvée Gaia, Bordeaux AOC 2021

- Davis Family Vineyards Rhone Style White Blend, Cuvee Luke, Mendocino County
- de Negoce Merlot, Lot 222, Hillside, Rutherford 2019
- Francis Ford Coppola Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, Alexander Valley 2018
- KORBEL Brut Rose, California
- Nakano Sake Brewery Co. Ltd. Nigori, Kunizakari, Nigori Sake, Japan
- Phantom Chardonnay, California 2020
- Serene Cellars Cabernet Sauvignon, Atlas Peak, Napa Valley 2017
- Trentadue Merlot, La Storia, Block 500, Alexander Valley 201

See a complete list of winners at www.lawinecomp.com.

The Spirits Competition received 257 Spirits entries. There was only 1 Best of Show awarded this year to Zaya Rum. There were 9 Best of Class Awards, 102 Gold Medals, 121 Silver Medals and 31 Bronze Medals. This year's competition received spirits from 19 different countries: Australia, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Dominican Republic, England, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Myanmar, Puerto Rico, Scotland, Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, United Kingdom and the United States.

Other top Spirits winners included:

- Best Of Class, Gold Medal - 94 Points:
 - Cierto 100% Blue Agave Tequila, Mexico, Anejo, Reserve Collection, MEXICO
 - Courage & Conviction Whiskey/Whisky, American Single Malt, Cuvée Cask, USA
 - Duffy's Run Vodka, Corn (Unflavored), Restless Vodka, USA
 - Frey Ranch Whiskey/Whisky, Straight Bourbon 2-5 years, USA
 - Patsch Tequila 100% Blue Agave Tequila, Mexico, Silver Plata, Blanco Mexico
 - SAKURAO Gin (Unflavored i.e., Botanicals added prior to or during distillation), HAMAGOU, Japan
 - Sanwa ShuruiCo. Ltd www.iichiko.co.jp Shochu, Sweet Potato, Iichiko, Koganenoimo, Japan
 - The Glenlivet Whiskey/Whisky, Single Malt Scotch 11 - 20 years old, 15 Year Old, French Oak Reserve, SCOTLAND

For a complete list of Spirits winners, visit www.laspiritscomp.com.

The public will get its first opportunity to taste the medal-winning wines and spirits at the LA County Fair, May 5-30, at Fairplex. It is the Fair's 100th anniversary. The Fair features a complete wine education program taught by industry experts.

The medal winners will also be featured at Cheers – L.A.'s Wine, Spirits, EVOO & Food Festival June 18. Cheers features the award winners from all the Los Angeles International Competitions (wine, spirits and extra virgin olive oils) as well as gourmet food and dancing.

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