

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**LOCAL WINERIES MAKE HISTORY AT  
FIRST EVER SONOMA VALLEY WINE COMPETITION**

More than 45 Wineries Take Part in Inaugural Wine Judging Held May 11<sup>th</sup> at The Lodge at Sonoma

**Sonoma, CA (May 12, 2009)** Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Alliance Executive Director, Grant Raeside, has announced the winners of the **first ever Sonoma Valley Wine Competition**, held May 11<sup>th</sup> at the Lodge at Sonoma. Monday's "Spring Tasting" was the first in a series of quarterly wine competitions designed to showcase the quality of wines made from Sonoma Valley grapes and to promote the seasonal release of new wines. Local wine writer and sommelier Christopher Sawyer oversaw the judging, which included 46 wineries competing for awards in categories ranging from varietal type and vineyard location to price point and selling venue. Wineries receiving top honors at the inaugural Sonoma Valley Wine Competition include: Nicholson Ranch, Muscardini Cellars, Tin Barn Vineyards, and Audelssa Estate Winery.

Raeside made the announcement saying, "This competition represents a win-win for our Sonoma Valley wineries and growers as well as the press and consumers. It provides a forum for large and small wineries alike to present their best efforts regardless of volume or distribution and unlike a once a year competition, this quarterly event will provide more potential exposure for Sonoma Valley grapes and wines to professional wine judges, media and consumers."

The Sonoma Valley Wine Competition is open to all SVVGA members as well as non member wineries whose wines are comprised of at least 75% of grapes sourced from vineyards belonging to SVVGA members located in the four sub-regions of Sonoma Valley: Sonoma Valley, Sonoma Mountain, Bennett Valley and the Sonoma County portion of Carneros. For a full list of member wineries, visit [www.sonomavalleywine.com](http://www.sonomavalleywine.com).

**Sonoma Valley Wine Competition “Spring Tasting” Results:**

**Best of Class:**

**Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$50 and up**

BOC: Sebastiani Vineyards and Winery 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon, Cherryblock Vineyards, Sonoma Valley

**Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$30 – \$49**

BOC: Clarbec 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon, Sonoma Valley

**Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$30 and up**

BOC: Arrowood Vineyards and Winery 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon, Monte Rosso Vineyard, Sonoma Valley

**Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2004**

BOC: Arrowood Vineyards and Winery 2004 Cabernet Sauvignon, Réserve Spéciale, Sonoma Valley

**Category: Merlot, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$15 - \$29.99**

BOC: Gloria Ferrer Caves and Vineyards 2006 Merlot, Sonoma Carneros

**Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2007 or later, retail price, \$15-\$29.99**

BOC: Larson Family Winery 2007 Pinot Noir, Estate, Sonoma Carneros

**Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2007 or later, retail price, \$30 and up**

BOC: Tin Barn Vineyards 2007 Pinot Noir, Ricci Vineyards, Sonoma Carneros

**Category: Syrah, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$15-\$29.99**

BOC: Kunde Family Estate 2006 Syrah, Estate, Sonoma Valley

**Category: Syrah, Vintage 2006, retail price \$30 and up**

BOC: 2006 Nicholson Ranch Syrah, Las Madres, Sonoma Carneros

**Category: Syrah, Vintage 2005 or earlier**

BOC: Mulas Family Vineyards 2004 Syrah, Alta Vista Vineyard, Sonoma Carneros

**Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price \$30 and up**

TIE

BOC: Nicholson Ranch 2007 Chardonnay, Estate, Sonoma Valley

BOC: Robledo Family Winery 2006 Chardonnay, Rancho Maria Vineyard, Sonoma Carneros

**Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$15 and up**

BOC: Kunde Family Estate 2005 Chardonnay, Reserve, Sonoma Valley

**Category: Chardonnay, Non Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$15 and up**

BOC: Roche Carneros Estate Winery 2007 Chardonnay, Estate, Sonoma Carneros

**Category: Pinot Gris/Pinot Grigio**

BOC: Clarbec 2007 Pinot Gris, Sonoma County

**Category: Rosé**

BOC: Muscardini Cellars 2008 Rosato di Sangiovese, Monte Rosso Vineyard, Sonoma Valley

**DOUBLE GOLD MEDAL WINNERS**

Category	Winery Name	Vintage	Grape Variety/Blend	Label Description	Appellation	Award
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$30 and up	Arrowood Vineyards & Winery	2005	Cabernet Sauvignon	Monte Rosso	Sonoma Valley	DOUBLE GOLD
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$30 and up	Nicholson Ranch	2006	Syrah	Las Madres	Sonoma Carneros	DOUBLE GOLD
Category: Chardonnay, Non-Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$15 and up	Roche Carneros Estate Winery	2007	Chardonnay	Estate	Sonoma Carneros	DOUBLE GOLD

**GOLD MEDAL WINNERS**

Category	Winery Name	Vintage	Grape Variety/Blend	Label Description	Appellation	Award
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2004	Arrowood Vineyards & Winery	2004	Cabernet Sauvignon	Reserve Special	Sonoma Valley	GOLD
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	Atmosphere Wines	2006	Syrah	Parmelee-Hill Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	GOLD
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$30-\$49.99	Audelssa Estate Winery	2006	Cabernet Sauvignon	Mountain Terraces and Warm Springs Vineyards	Sonoma Valley	GOLD
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$50 and up	Audelssa Estate Winery	2006	Cabernet Sauvignon	Mountain Terrace Estate	Sonoma Valley	GOLD
Category: Rose (Varietal not listed)	Benziger Family Winery	2008	Grenache	Dragonsleaf Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	GOLD
Category: Pinot Gris/Pinot Grigio	Clarbec	2007	Pinot Gris		Sonoma County	GOLD
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$30-\$49.99	Clarbec	2006	Cabernet Sauvignon		Sonoma Valley	GOLD
Category: Merlot, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	Gloria Ferrer Caves & Vineyards	2006	Merlot		Sonoma Carneros	GOLD
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	Kunde Family Estate	2006	Syrah	Estate	Sonoma Valley	GOLD
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$15 and up	Kunde Family Estate	2005	Chardonnay	Reserve	Sonoma Valley	GOLD
Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2007 or later, retail price, \$15 - \$29.99	Larson Family Winery	2007	Pinot Noir	Estate	Sonoma Carneros	GOLD
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2004 or earlier	Mulas Family Vineyards	2004	Syrah	Alta Vista Vineyard	Sonoma Carneros	GOLD
Category: Rose, Sangiovese	Muscardini Cellars	2008	Sangiovese	Monte Rosso	Sonoma Valley	GOLD
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$30 and up	Nicholson Ranch	2006	Syrah		Bennett Valley	GOLD
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$30 and up	Nicholson Ranch	2007	Chardonnay	Estate	Sonoma Valley	GOLD
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$30 and up	Robledo Family Winery	2006	Chardonnay	Rancho Maria	Sonoma Carneros	GOLD
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$50 and up	Sebastiani Vineyards & Winery	2006	Cabernet Sauvignon	Cherryblock	Sonoma Valley	GOLD
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$30 and up	Sojourn Cellars	2005	Cabernet Sauvignon	Reserve, Mountain Terraces Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	GOLD
Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2007 or later, retail price, \$30 and up	Tin Barn Vineyards	2007	Pinot Noir	Ricci Vineyard	Sonoma Carneros	GOLD
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	Wellington Vineyards	2005	Syrah	Estate	Sonoma Valley	GOLD
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2004 or earlier	Westwood Winery	2005	Syrah	Annadel Estate Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	GOLD

**SILVER MEDAL WINNERS**

Category	Winery Name	Vintage	Grape Variety/Blend	Label Description	Appellation	Award
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$30 and up	Anaba Wines	2007	Chardonnay		Sonoma Coast	SILVER
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2004 or earlier	Arrowood Vineyards & Winery	2004	Syrah	Le Beau Melange	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Rose, Rhone Style	Arrowood Vineyards & Winery	2008	41% Mouvedre, 31% Syrah, 28%	La Rose	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$50 and up	B.R. Cohn Winery	2006	Cabernet Sauvignon	Olive Hill Estate Vineyards	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	B.R. Cohn Winery	2007	Chardonnay		Sonoma County	SILVER
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$30 and up	Bartholomew Park Winery	2005	Cabernet Sauvignon	Kasper Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Merlot, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$30 and up	Bartholomew Park Winery	2006	Merlot	Desnudos Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$30 and up	Bartholomew Park Winery	2006	Syrah	Estate Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	Benziger Family Winery	2007	Chardonnay	Sangiaco Vineyard	Sonoma Carneros	SILVER
Category: Merlot, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$0-\$29.99	Charles Creek Vineyards	2005	Merlot	Pasatiempo Merlot, Sangiacomo Vineyards	Sonoma Carneros	SILVER
Category: Tocai Friulano	David Noyes Wines	2008	Tocai Friulano	Pagani Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$30 and up	Deerfield Ranch Winery	2007	Chardonnay	Los Chamizal Vineyard	Sonoma County	SILVER
Category: Rose, Pinot Noir	Fichtenberg Vineyards	2008	Pinot Noir Saignee Blush		Sonoma Carneros	SILVER
Category: Rose, Rhone Style	GlenLyon Vineyards & Winery	2008	Blush of the Boar - Syrah	Estate	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2004 or earlier	Gloria Ferrer Caves & Vineyards	2004	Pinot Noir	Jose S. Ferrer, Reserve	Sonoma Carneros	SILVER
Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2004 or earlier	Gloria Ferrer Caves & Vineyards	2004	Pinot Noir	Rust Rock Terrace	Sonoma Carneros	SILVER
Category: Merlot, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$30 and up	Gundlach Bundschu Winery	2006	Merlot	Estate Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2006 or later, retail price, \$30 and up	Gundlach Bundschu Winery	2006	Pinot Noir	Estate Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	Gundlach Bundschu Winery	2007	Chardonnay	Estate Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2004	Imagery Estate Winery	2004	Cabernet Sauvignon	Sunny Slope	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Merlot, Vintage 2004	Imagery Estate Winery	2004	Merlot	Sunny Slope	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Merlot, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$30 and up	Kunde Family Estate	2006	Merlot	Clone 2	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	Kunde Family Estate	2007	Chardonnay	Estate	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Chardonnay, Non-Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2006 and earlier	Larson Family Winery	2006	Chardonnay	Late Harvest	Sonoma Carneros	SILVER
Category: Merlot, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$30 and up	Ledson Winery & Vineyards	2005	Merlot		Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$30 and up	Little Vineyards Family Winery	2006	Syrah	Estate	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2004 or earlier	Loxton Cellars	2005	Syrah	Reserve	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Merlot, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	MacLeod Family Vineyard	2006	85% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc, Estate		Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	MacRostie Winery	2007	Chardonnay		Sonoma Carneros	SILVER
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	Matanzas Creek Winery	2007	Chardonnay		Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$30 and up	Moon Mountain Vineyard	2005	Syrah	Estate	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2007 or later, retail price, \$30 and up	Nicholson Ranch	2007	Pinot Noir	Estate	Sonoma Valley	SILVER

Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$30 and up	Nicholson Ranch	2007	Chardonnay	Durell Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Merlot, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$30 and up	Robledo Family Winery	2006	Merlot	Rancho Emiliano	Sonoma Carneros	SILVER
Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2007 or later, retail price, \$15 - \$29.99	Roche Carneros Estate Winery	2007	Pinot Noir	Estate	Sonoma Carneros	SILVER
Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2006 or later, retail price, \$30 and up	Roche Carneros Estate Winery	2006	Pinot Noir	Estate Reserve	Sonoma Carneros	SILVER
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$30 and up	Roessler Cellars	2007	Chardonnay	Big Bend Estate	Sonoma Carneros	SILVER
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$15 and up	Sand Hill Wines	2007	Chardonnay	Durell Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	Sebastiani Vineyards & Winery	2007	Chardonnay		Sonoma Carneros	SILVER
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$30 and up	Sojourn Cellars	2005	Cabernet Sauvignon		Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Merlot, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$0-\$29.99	Spann Vineyards	2005	Merlot	75% Sonoma Valley	Sonoma County	SILVER
Category: Rose, Rhone Style	Ty Caton Vineyards	2008	Rose	Caton Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	SILVER
Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2004 or earlier	Westwood Winery	2005	Pinot Noir		Sonoma Valley	SILVER

**BRONZE MEDAL WINNERS**

Category	Winery Name	Vintage	Grape Variety/Blend	Label Description	Appellation	Award
Category: Rose, Pinot Noir	Atmosphere Wines	2008	Pinot Noir Rose	Trackside Vineyard	Sonoma Carneros	BRONZE
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$30 and up	Audelssa Estate Winery	2008	Syrah	Maelstrom - Estate	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$30 and up	Audelssa Estate Winery	2006	Syrah	Tempest - Estate	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$30 and up	B.R. Cohn Winery	2007	Chardonnay	Reserve	Sonoma Carneros	BRONZE
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$30 and up	Benziger Family Winery	2005	Cabernet Sauvignon	Stone Farm Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$30 and up	Benziger Family Winery	2005	Cabernet Sauvignon	Gordenker Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	Bonneau Wines	2007	Catherine's Vineyard		Sonoma Carneros	BRONZE
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$30 and up	Clarbec	2005	Cabernet Sauvignon	Glen Oaks Ranch	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Merlot, Vintage 2004	Fichtenburg Vineyards	2004	Merlot		Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	Gloria Ferrer Caves & Vineyards	2007	Chardonnay		Sonoma Carneros	BRONZE
Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2006 or later, retail price, \$0-\$29.99	Gloria Ferrer Caves & Vineyards	2006	Pinot Noir		Sonoma Carneros	BRONZE
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2004 or earlier	Gloria Ferrer Caves & Vineyards	2005	Syrah		Sonoma Carneros	BRONZE
Category: Rose, Rhone Style	Hughes Family Vineyards	2008	Syrah	Savannah Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Merlot, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	Kenwood Vineyards	2006	Merlot	Jack London Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	Kenwood Vineyards	2006	Syrah	Jack London Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$15 - \$29.99	Kunde Family Estate	2006	Cabernet Sauvignon	Estate	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$30 and up	Larson Family Winery	2005	Cabernet Sauvignon	Estate	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Chardonnay, Non-Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2006 and earlier	Larson Family Winery	2006	Chardonnay	Estate	Sonoma Carneros	BRONZE
Category: Merlot, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$0-\$29.99	Larson Family Winery	2005	Merlot	Millerick Road	Sonoma County	BRONZE
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$30 and up	Laurel Glen	2005	Cabernet Sauvignon	Laurel Glen	Sonoma Mountain	BRONZE
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2004 or earlier	Ledson Winery & Vineyards	2005	Syrah		Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$30-\$49.99	Little Vineyards Family Winery	2006	Cabernet Sauvignon	Estate	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2007 or later, retail price, \$30 and up	MacRostie Winery	2007	Pinot Noir		Sonoma Carneros	BRONZE
Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2006 or later, retail price, \$30 and up	Nicholson Ranch	2006	Pinot Noir	Estate, Reserve, Cactus Hill	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2006 or later, retail price, \$30 and up	Robledo Family Winery	2006	Pinot Noir	Rancho Rincon	Sonoma Carneros	BRONZE
Category: Syrah, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	Roche Carneros Estate Winery	2006	Syrah	Estate	Sonoma Carneros	BRONZE
Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$15 and up	Sand Hill Wines	2005	Chardonnay	Durell Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2004 or earlier	Sand Hill Wines	2004	Pinot Noir	Durell Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Merlot, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$15-\$29.99	Schug Carneros Estate	2006	Merlot		Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2007 or later, retail price, \$15 - \$29.99	Schug Carneros Estate	2007	Pinot Noir		Sonoma Carneros	BRONZE
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2005, retail price, \$30 and up	Spann Vineyards	2005	Cabernet Sauvignon	Mayacamas Range	Sonoma County	BRONZE
Category: Cabernet Sauvignon, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$30-\$49.99	Ty Caton Vineyards	2006	Cabernet Sauvignon	Caton Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Merlot, Vintage 2006, retail price, \$30 and up	Ty Caton Vineyards	2006	Merlot	Upperbench, Caton Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Rose, Rhone Style	Westwood Winery	2007	Rose	Annadel Estate Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE
Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2004 or earlier	Westwood Winery	2004	Pinot Noir		Sonoma Carneros	BRONZE
Category: Pinot Noir, Vintage 2004 or earlier	Westwood Winery	2004	Pinot Noir	Nicholson Ranch Vineyard	Sonoma Valley	BRONZE

**Best White Wine**

Category: Chardonnay, Barrel Fermented, Vintage 2007, retail price \$30 and up

Sweepstakes Winner: Nicholson Ranch 2007 Chardonnay, Estate, Sonoma Valley

**Best Red Wine**

Category: Syrah, Vintage 2006, retail price \$30 and up

Sweepstakes Winner: Nicholson Ranch 2006 Syrah, Las Madres Vineyard, Sonoma Carneros

**Best Rosé Wine**

Category: Rosé, Sangiovese

Sweepstakes Winner: Muscardini Cellars 2008 Rosato di Sangiovese, Monte Rosso Vineyard, Sonoma Valley

**Best Late Harvest Wine**

Larson Family Winery 2006 Late Harvest Chardonnay, Sonoma Carneros

**Best Organic Wine**

Gundlach Bundschu Winery 2007 Chardonnay, Rhinefarm Estate Vineyard, Sonoma Valley

**Best Tasting Room Red**

Arrowood Vineyards and Winery 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon, Monte Rosso Vineyard, Sonoma Valley

**Best Tasting Room White**

Nicholson Ranch 2007 Chardonnay, Estate, Sonoma Valley

**Best Tasting Room Rosé**

Benziger Family Winery 2008 Grenache Rosé, Dragonsleaf Vineyard, Sonoma Valley

**Best Valley Floor Red Wine**

Tin Barn Vineyards 2007 Pinot Noir, Ricci Vineyards, Sonoma Carneros

**Best Valley Floor White Wine**

Roche Carneros Estate Winery 2007 Chardonnay, Estate, Sonoma Carneros

### **Best Hillside Selection**

Audelssa Estate Winery 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon, Mountain Terraces Estate, Sonoma Valley

### **Best Vineyard Designate Wines**

#### **White \$14.99 and under**

Clarbec 2007 Pinot Gris, Clarbec Vineyard & Lila Lane Vineyard, Sonoma County

#### **White \$15.00 and up**

Kunde Family Estate 2005 Chardonnay, Reserve, Kinneybrook Vineyard Block 24 & Estate Vineyards, Sonoma Valley

#### **White \$30.00 and up**

Robledo Family Winery 2006 Chardonnay, Rancho Maria Vineyard, Sonoma Carneros

#### **Red \$15.00 and up**

Atmosphere Wines 2006 Syrah, Parmelee-Hill Vineyard, Sonoma Valley

#### **Red \$30.00 and up**

Sojourn Cellars 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon, Reserve, Mountain Terrace Vineyard, Sonoma Valley

#### **Rosé \$15.00 - \$29.99**

Muscardini Cellars 2008 Rosato di Sangiovese, Monte Rosso Vineyard, Sonoma Valley

### **Sonoma Valley Wine Competition Judges:**

Margo Van Staaveren, Winemaker, Chateau St. Jean

Mike Short, Wine Buyer, Sonoma Market & Glen Ellen Market

Greg Walter, Editor/Proprietor, Pinot Report

Debbie Zachareas, Sommelier/Wine Director, Ferry Plaza Wine Merchant

Ziggy Eschliman, National Radio Personality/Writer

Jeff Cox, author and monthly contributor to The Press Democrat & Wine News

Greg Silvi, Gourmet Magazine

Cyril Penn, Editor, Wine Business Monthly

Deborah Grossman, Journalist, Wine Enthusiast & Napa/Sonoma Magazines

Christopher Sawyer, Sommelier, Carneros Bistro & Wine Bar

Traci Dutton, Beverage Manager/Sommelier, Culinary Institute of America, Greystone

Gillian Balance, Sommelier, Carneros Inn & Plumpjack Group

Erich Bradley, Winemaker, Audelssa Estate Winery & Sojourn Wines

Eric Henson, Sommelier, Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn & Spa

Kimberly Charles, Charles Communications

Kathleen Hill, Journalist, Sonoma Index Tribune

### **About SVVGA Annual Events**

Each year, the Sonoma Valley Vintners and Growers Alliance partners with local wineries, growers, restaurants and hospitality providers to produce four signature events designed to raise awareness and appreciation for the beauty and bounty of Sonoma Valley. The events include: **Passport to Sonoma Valley, May 16<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup>; Sonoma Wine Country Weekend, September 4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> (Labor Day Weekend)**; Holiday in the Vines, November 27 – December 31, 2009 and VINOLIVO, February 12, 2010. For more on these events, visit [www.sonomavalleywine.com](http://www.sonomavalleywine.com) or call 707-935-0803.

### **About SVVGA**

The Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Alliance (SVVGA) is a non-profit trade organization serving over 500 vintners, growers and associates who share a mission to promote awareness of Sonoma Valley's grapes, wine, terroir and history as the birthplace of the California wine industry. The Sonoma Valley Vintners and Growers Foundation (SVVGF) is a non-profit organization that has raised over \$8,000,000 for local Sonoma Valley charities through Sonoma Valley Wine Country Weekend. To learn more about the SVVGA and SVVGF, visit [www.sonomavalleywine.com](http://www.sonomavalleywine.com) or call 707-935-0803.

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