

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington State Wine Recognized on Top Wine Lists of 2014

Wine publications acknowledge 32 Washington State wineries on the Top lists of the year

SEATTLE (Dec. 15, 2014) - Three of the nation's most influential wine magazines have awarded Washington State with top accolades for 2014. *Wine Enthusiast*, *Wine Spectator* and *Wine & Spirits* have recently released their "Top of 2014" lists which include 32 wineries and 35 different wines from Washington State. These recognitions further cement Washington State's reputation for crafting wines that rank among the world's best.

Throughout the year, these publications each score and review approximately 18,000 submissions from around the world and then name their most celebrated wines in the following categories: Top 100 Best Buys, Top 100 Cellar Selections, Top 100 Values, Top 100 Most Exciting Wines, Top 100 Wines of the Year and the Top 100 Wineries of the Year.

"Washington achieves consistency across a range of varieties, with value opportunities encompassing styles from crisp, juicy Rieslings to bold, fruit-forward Merlots," said *Wine Spectator* Copy Editor Keith Newton in the magazine's December 31, 2014 issue. "Top producers hit the sweet spot of quality and price."

Wine Enthusiast named Washington State 27 times to its three Top 100 lists: **Top 100 Best Buys**, **Top 100 Cellar Selections** and its most acclaimed, **Top 100 Wines of the World**. Of the named 27 wines, Washington State landed in the top 10 of each list.

Two Washington State wines made *Wine Spectator's* **Year's Most Exciting Wines**, and seven additional wines were listed on **Top 100 Values**. In a collection of producers from around the world with the most exceptional track records in the magazine's blind tastings this year, *Wine & Spirits* nodded to six Washington State wineries on its **Top 100 Wineries of Year**.

"It is an honor, and no surprise, to see our wines listed among the best from around the world," said Steve Warner, president of Washington State Wine, the organization which represents all wineries and growers in Washington State. "2014 has been an exciting year for us, both as a vintage and now with this recognition. Look for more great things to come from Washington wine."

WASHINGTON STATE WINE TOP 2014 ACCOLADES

Wine Enthusiast Top 100 Wines of the Year

- #7 - Sparkman Cellars 2013 Birdie Riesling
- #15 - Sineann 2012 Columbia Valley Cabernet Sauvignon
- #19 - Kevin White 2012 La Fraternité Red Wine
- #24 - Ashan Cellars 2012 Kestrel Vineyard Chardonnay
- #27 - Gramercy Cellars 2010 Cabernet Sauvignon
- #33 - JM Cellars 2012 Chardonnay
- #37 - Efesté 2012 Boushey Vineyard Sauvage Sauvignon Blanc

Wine Enthusiast Top 100 Cellar Selections

Only 6% were given 'Cellar Selection' accolades

- #3 - Gramercy Cellars 2010 Lagniappe Syrah
- #6 - Betz Family 2010 Père de Famille Cabernet Sauvignon
- #17 - Cayuse 2010 Cailloux Vineyard Syrah
- #23 - K Vintners 2010 The Creator Old Stones Cabernet Sauvignon-Syrah
- #28 - Sineann 2012 Champoux Vineyards Block One Cabernet Sauvignon
- #36 - Corliss Estates 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon
- #43 - Januik 2012 Bacchus Vineyard Riesling
- #50 - JM Cellars 2011 Klipsun Vineyard Merlot
- #56 - Maison Bleue 2011 Boushey Vineyard Le Midi Grenache
- #62 - Mark Ryan 2011 Wild Eyed Syrah
- #73 - Cadence 2010 Cara Mia Vineyard Bel Canto

Wine Enthusiast Top 100 Best Buys

'Best Buys' sell for under \$15 and have exceptionally high scores for their price range

- #2 - Barnard Griffin 2012 Fumé Blanc Dry Sauvignon Blanc
- #6 - Chateau Ste. Michelle 2013 Dry Riesling
- #12 - Hogue 2012 Gewürztraminer
- #20 - StoneCap 2012 Estate Grown Merlot
- #34 - Mercer Canyons 2013 Chardonnay
- #48 - Charles & Charles 2013 Rosé
- #60 - Maryhill 2013 Rosé of Sangiovese
- #74 - Pacific Rim 2013 Twin Vineyards Gewürztraminer
- #85 - Milbrandt 2013 Traditions Riesling

Wine Spectator Top 100 The Most Exciting Wines of 2014

- #35 - Amavi Cellars 2011 Cabernet Sauvignon
- #43 - Charles Smith 2013 Kung Fu Girl Evergreen Riesling

Wine Spectator Top 100 Values:

- 14 Hands 2011 Chardonnay
- Charles & Charles 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon-Syrah
- Charles Smith 2013 Kung Fu Girl Evergreen Riesling
- Chateau Ste. Michelle 2013 Riesling
- Columbia Crest 2012 Grand Estates Chardonnay
- Milbrandt 2011 Traditions Merlot
- Seven Falls 2011 Cabernet Sauvignon

Wine & Spirits Top 100 Wineries of the Year

- àMaurice Cellars
- Andrew Will
- Cadence
- Chateau Ste. Michelle
- Gramercy Cellars
- L'Ecole No. 41

About Washington State Wine:

Washington State Wine represents every licensed winery and wine grape grower in Washington State. Guided by an appointed board, WSW provides a marketing platform to raise positive awareness of the Washington State wine industry and generate greater demand for its wines. Funded almost entirely by the industry through assessments based on grape and wine sales, WSW is a state government agency, established by the legislature in 1987. To learn more, visit www.washingtonwine.org.

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