

The Wine Tasting Challenge

The 2010 Wine Tasting Challenge is growing by leaps and bounds

March 10, 2011 (Toronto, ON) On Nov. 29, 2010 over 250 competitors celebrated their passion for wine and spirits during the 7th annual Wine Tasting Challenge at the Four Seasons Hotel in Toronto.

Renowned as the largest and most prestigious world-wide wine competition, the event highlights Canada's brightest wine talent. The Wine Tasting Challenge is open to professional sommeliers, servers, wine-industry experts, students and amateur wine enthusiasts wishing to challenge themselves by identifying select wines and spirits. Along with associate partners Via Allegro Ristorante, B&W Wines and Spiegelau, The Challenge is presented by Brock University's Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute (CCOVI), and delighted to announce the 2010 Challenge winners.

This year also celebrates the inauguration of two new awards: the first, the Donald Ziraldo Award which recognizes innovation, development and inspiration in the promotion of the food and wine industry. Bill and Marilyn Redelmeier, President and proprietors of Southbrook Vineyards are the recipients of this new award.

"I am pleased to recognize Bill and Marilyn's contribution to the Canadian wine industry particularly their pursuit in the importance of organic and biodynamic viticulture, a sustainable winery designed by architect Jack Diamond, as well as their championing of Chardonnay in London and New York following the first place showing of a Canadian Chardonnay (Clos Jordanne) at the Jugement de Montréal," said wine mogul Donald Ziraldo.

The second new award, the Distinguished Sponsor Award, is given to acknowledge a long-standing sponsor of The Challenge who shares the passion for the spirit to which the competition inspires. For outstanding support for education in the industry and as a long standing friend to The Challenge, Dr. Ian Brindle, Vice-President of Research at Brock University presented the award to Moray Tawse of Tawse Vineyard and Winery.

Congratulations to the 2010 Wine Tasting Challenge winners:

Professional Challenge:

1. Evan Saviolidis (Grand Champion)
2. Barclay Robinson
3. Jonathan Gonsenhauser

Amateur Challenge:

1. Jonathan Salem-Wiseman
2. Ed Chalupka
3. Irina Omari

CCOVI/VQA Challenge:

1. Sarah Bartlett

Spirit Challenge:

1. Barclay Robinson

For more information on the event, please visit winetastingchallenge.com or contact Barb Tatarnic, Director of The Challenge, CCOVI, Brock University, 905-688-5550 x4652; ccovi@brocku.ca