YOU'RE INVITED - We are pleased to invite you to take part in the 2027 National Small Producer Wine Invitational - a wine competition that celebrates excellence, craftsmanship, and the distinctive stories behind today's most compelling wines. This event brings together respected judges, industry leaders, and discerning palates from across the country to recognize our nation's small producers. By entering, you join a community dedicated to honoring the art of winemaking—and gain the opportunity for your wines to be evaluated, awarded, and showcased on a truly national stage.

This packet includes all the forms and instructions you will need to register and submit your entries.

Your initial registration and payment **must** be made online at **www.NSPWInvitational.com**. You will use THIS document to submit your physical entries to the competition.

If you have any questions, please send an e-mail to **info@libationawards.com.**

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE:
Wednesday, March 17th, 2027
Judging: March 16th –March 18th

ELIGIBILITY AND CONDITIONS

1. Any commercial wine produced by a professional United States winery that produces **fewer than 5,000 cases** per year may enter.
2. There is no limit to the number of wines entered. However, no wine may be entered into more than one class category.
3. Wines entered in Competitions from previous years are welcome.
4. The Competition reserves the right to photograph any entry and reproduce it in catalogs, posters, publications, on our website, and in publicity issued by the Competition.

JUDGING CRITERIA

The Competition uses a modified 100-point Davis system. Entries will be adjudicated across 5 categories: Appearance, Aroma & Bouquet, Taste & Texture, Aftertaste, and Overall Impression. Each category is worth up to 20 points.

Medals are awarded as follows:
Gold: 90-100, **Silver:** 80-89, **Bronze:** 70-79

TASTING COMPETITION

Our **quality-based scoring system** allows for medals to be awarded through independent evaluation, rather than through comparison against other submissions. It is possible, and likely, that multiple gold, silver, or bronze awards will be awarded in each category. Entrants also have 3 additional ways wineries can win in the competition. See the panel below.

AWARDS AND RESULTS

Winners will be notified by e-mail during the week following the Competition.

FOUR WAYS TO WIN

There are FOUR WAYS for wineries to WIN for every submission:

Gold, Silver, & Bronze: Our panel of judges will score each submission using a double blind, modified Davis scale. This point-based scoring system allows for multiple Gold, Silver, and Bronze awards per category. By using this method of scoring and medaling, producers are not competing against each other, but rather being evaluated on an individual basis.

Best in Class Double Gold: The top Gold medal recipient in each category will be recognized as "Best in Class" and upgraded to Double Gold.

Winery of the Year: Submitting five or more entries will automatically enter you into the running for Winery of the Year. The average score of each eligible winery's submissions will determine winery of the year.

Best of Show Bottle Art & Label Design Gold: You spend a lot of time designing your labels- opt to have them adjudicated so they get the credit they deserve!

WE ARE HERE TO HELP

Throughout every step of the Competition, we want to help you succeed. We'll answer any question you may have during the application process. Once you win a medal, we offer a wealth of tools and resources to help you turn your success into marketing gold.

BENEFITS TO ENTERING

- **Medals, Plaques, and Bottle Stickers.** Gold, Silver, Bronze, Best in Class, and Winery of the Year winners receive a medal or plaque. Winners also receive print-ready artwork to produce their own bottle stickers, which highlight awards at the point of sale and can help boost sales.

- **As Many Medals as Points Dictate.** Our judging model results in as many medals being awarded as point totals dictate.

- **Industry Leading PR and Marketing for Your Brand.** All award winners receive exposure through our six-tiered PR and marketing plan- including separate state, regional, and national press releases in wine media, as well as separate online branding and marketing.

- High-quality, high-resolution medal imagery is available for licensed use in online, print and POS materials for winners.

- Developed exclusively for medal winners, a **complimentary marketing toolkit** will provide ideas, tips and strategies for promoting your award to increase visibility and maximize sales.

THE NATIONAL SMALL PRODUCER WINE INVITATIONAL

WE PROVIDE A SIX TIER PROMOTIONAL PLAN

PROPRIETARY BRANDING

Use our trademarked and well-recognized logos in your brand building efforts.

AWARD MEDALS

Gold, silver and bronze medal, best in class, and winery of the year will receive medals/plaques.

PRESS RELEASE TO INDUSTRY LEADERS

Winners will be included in Libation's digital publication to THOUSANDS of industry leaders and insiders.

LOCAL, REGIONAL, AND NATIONAL MEDIA

Winners will be included in a press release to state, regional, and national level media. You may also use the press release for your own marketing purposes.

SOCIAL MEDIA

We will promote event results on our social media outlets including: Facebook, Instagram and Twitter- with over 200,000 individual reaches.

WEB EXPOSURE

Winners will be posted on LibationAwards.com and any other applicable websites. You may link freely to these announcement lists to enhance your brand.

HOW TO REGISTER

1. Register your organization and pay the fee of $85 per entry at **NSPWInvitational.com.**
2. Complete the enclosed Wine Information Control sheet and send along with wine samples.
3. Send Two (2) 750ml samples or equivalent of each entry.

LEGAL SHIPPING CHECKLIST FOR ENTRIES

1. Use FedEx or UPS (NOT USPS), declared as samples for a commercial recipient.
2. Label shipments clearly as "competition/judging samples — not for resale."
3. Include competition entry details inside the shipment.

SHIP TO:

Libation Media
8665 Sudley Road #195
Manassas, VA 20110

Entries must be shipped via commercial carrier (UPS, FedEx, DHL, etc.) and may NOT be shipped through USPS.

INCLUDE

A copy of your completed wine information control sheet and copy of your online registration.

WRITE

On the boxes: "SAMPLE MATERIALS. FOR EVALUATION PURPOSES. NOT FOR RESALE."

For shipments of more than one box, mark each box: "BOX 1 OF 4," "BOX 2 OF 4," etc.

KEEP

A copy of your online registration and payment and wine information form for your records.

CONTACT US

E-MAIL: info@libationawards.com

UNUSED PORTIONS At the conclusion of the competition become the property of The National Small Producer Wine Invitational.

MEDALS AND AWARDS Gold, silver and bronze medal winners will receive physical medals. Double gold winners will receive two gold medals to represent their award. Winery of the year will receive a physical plaque. **Please allow up to 8 weeks after judging to receive physical medals and other awards.**

DO NOT SEND ENTRY FEES WITH YOUR WINE SAMPLE. FEES AND ORGANIZATION REGISTRATION MUST BE DONE ONLINE AT www.NSPWInvitational.com

WINE SAMPLE CONTROL SHEET- Manual Form (please only use if you CANNOT fill the form outline)

Please fill out the wine sample control sheet electronically at www.libationawards.com/control-sheet

Producer Name:_____ **(You must register as a producer and pay your entry fee online at NSPWInvitatioinal.com)**

Class Code	Vintage per label or N/A	**Wine Name:** Varietal, blend, or proprietary name as it appears on the label. Include Brand name if different than Winery above.	**Identifying designations** such as Reserve, Estate Grown, specific vineyard, etc. **ONLY if on label.**	Appellation per label	Percentage of Each Grape or other ingredient if any (For verification of coding)	Residual Sugar Percent	Alcohol Percentage	Retail Price USD

(make multiple copies as needed)

WINE CATEGORY CLASS CODES

SPARKLING WINES
1000 - Blanc de Blancs
1001 - Sparkling White — Dry (less than 2.5% RS)
1002 - Pétillant Naturel (Pét-Nat)
1003 - Sparkling Rosé — Dry (less than 2.5% RS)
1004 - Blanc de Noirs
1005 - Sparkling White — Sweet (2.5% RS or greater)
1006 - Sparkling Rosé — Sweet (2.5% RS or greater)
1007 - Sparkling American-Species or Hybrid Wine
1008 - Sparkling Fruit Wine
1009 - Sparkling Red
1010 - Other Flavored or Specialty Sparkling Wine

STILL WHITE WINES
2000 - Pinot Gris or Pinot Grigio
2001 - Albariño
2002 - Sauvignon Blanc or Fumé Blanc
2003 - Vermentino
2004 - Grüner Veltliner
2005 - Riesling — Dry (less than 1.0% RS)
2006 - Pinot Blanc
2007 - Other Italian White Varietal
2008 - Iberian or Portuguese White Varietal
2009 - Chenin Blanc
2010 - Chardonnay — Unoaked
2011 - Sémillon
2012 - Bordeaux-Style White Blend
2013 - Other White Varietal
2014 - Other White Blend
2015 - Gewürztraminer
2016 - Muscat or Moscato — Up to and including 5.0% RS
2017 - Riesling — Medium-Dry or Medium-Sweet (1.0% to 4.0% RS)
2018 - Other Off-Dry or Sweet Still White Wine
2019 - Viognier
2020 - Other Rhône White Varietal
2021 - Rhône-Style White Blend
2022 - Chardonnay — Oaked
2023 - Riesling — Sweet (greater than 4.0% RS)
2024 - Other Still White Wine

ROSÉ WINES
3000 - Vinifera Rosé — Dry (less than 1.0% RS)
3001 - American-Species or Hybrid Rosé
3002 - Vinifera Rosé — Off-Dry or Sweet (1.0% RS or greater)
3003 - Other Rosé Wine
ORANGE, AMBER AND SKIN-CONTACT WINES
3500 - Vinifera Skin-Contact White — Varietal
3501 - Vinifera Skin-Contact White — Blend
3502 - Other Orange, Amber or Skin-Contact Wine, including Hybrid

STILL RED WINES
4000 - Gamay
4001 - Pinot Noir
4002 - Barbera
4003 - Grenache
4004 - Sangiovese
4005 - Other Rhône Red Varietal, including Carignan or Cinsault
4006 - Cabernet Franc
4007 - Merlot
4008 - Other Bordeaux Red Varietal, including Carménère
4009 - Tempranillo
4010 - Nebbiolo
4011 - Malbec
4012 - Zinfandel or Primitivo
4013 - Italian-Style Red Blend
4014 - Iberian or Portuguese Red Blend
4015 - Rhône-Style Red Blend
4016 - Syrah or Shiraz
4017 - Mourvèdre or Monastrell
4018 - Cabernet Sauvignon
4019 - Bordeaux-Style Red Blend
4020 - Other Iberian or Portuguese Red Varietal, including Touriga Nacional
4021 - Other Italian Red Varietal, including Aglianico
4022 - Petit Verdot
4023 - Petite Sirah or Durif
4024 - Tannat
4025 - Other Red Varietal
4026 - Other Red Blend
4027 - Other Still Red Wine
4028 - Off-Dry or Sweet Still Red Wine

LATE-HARVEST AND DESSERT WINES
5000 - Late-Harvest White Wine
5001 - Sweet Muscat or Moscato — Greater than 5.0% RS
5002 - Botrytized Wine
5003 - Ice Wine
5004 - Sweet American-Species or Hybrid Wine
5005 - Late-Harvest Red Wine
5006 - Dried-Grape or Passito-Style Wine
5007 - Other Nonfortified Dessert Wine

AMERICAN-SPECIES AND HYBRID WINES
6000 - Seyval Blanc
6001 - Vidal Blanc
6002 - Chardonel
6003 - La Crescent, Brianna or Itasca

6004 - Vignoles
6005 - Traminette
6006 - Other White Hybrid Varietal
6007 - White Hybrid Blend
6008 - Other American-Species White Varietal, including Niagara, Catawba or Delaware
6009 - Muscadine or Scuppernong
6010 - White Hybrid-Vinifera Blend
6011 - Concord
6012 - Chambourcin
6013 - Marquette
6014 - Noiret or Corot Noir
6015 - Frontenac
6016 - Other Red Hybrid Varietal, including Baco Noir or Maréchal Foch
6017 - Red Hybrid Blend
6018 - American-Species-Vinifera Blend
6019 - Red Hybrid-Vinifera Blend
6020 - Other American-Species Varietal
6021 - American-Species Blend
6022 - Norton or Cynthiana
6023 - Other American-Species or Hybrid Wine

FRUIT AND AGRICULTURAL WINES
7000 - Apple Wine — Excluding Cider
7001 - Pear Wine — Excluding Perry
7002 - Citrus or Tropical-Fruit Wine
7003 - Cherry or Other Stone-Fruit Wine
7004 - Other Single-Fruit Wine
7005 - Berry Wine
7006 - Multi-Fruit Blend
7007 - Spiced or Flavored Fruit Wine
7008 - Other Agricultural Wine
7009 - Other Fruit Wine
MEAD
7400 - Sparkling Mead
7401 - Traditional Mead
7402 - Cyser
7403 - Pyment
7404 - Melomel or Fruit Mead
7405 - Metheglin or Spiced Mead
7406 - Braggot
7407 - Other Specialty Mead

VERMOUTH AND AROMATIZED WINES
7700 - Dry Vermouth
7701 - Bianco or Blanc Vermouth
7702 - Other Vermouth
7703 - Sweet or Red Vermouth
7704 - Other Aromatized or Aperitif Wine

FORTIFIED WINES
8000 - Other Fortified White Wine
8001 - Port-Style White Wine
8002 - Sherry-Style Dry Wine
8003 - Marsala-Style Wine
8004 - Madeira-Style Wine
8005 - Sherry-Style Sweet Wine
8006 - Port-Style Red Wine
8007 - Other Fortified Red Wine
8008 - Fortified Fruit Wine
8009 - Other Fortified Wine

FLAVORED WINES, SANGRIA AND WINE SPECIALTIES
8500 - Wine Cooler or Wine Spritzer
8501 - Sangria — White
8502 - Flavored Still Grape Wine — White
8503 - Sangria — Rosé
8504 - Flavored Still Grape Wine — Rosé
8505 - Sangria — Red
8506 - Flavored Still Grape Wine — Red
8507 - Wine Cocktail or Wine-Based Ready-to-Drink Beverage
8508 - Specialty-Finished Grape Wine
8509 - Other Wine Specialty

CIDER AND PERRY
9000 - Perry
9001 - Modern Cider — Dry
9002 - Heritage or Traditional Cider — Dry
9003 - Hopped Cider
9004 - Modern Cider — Medium or Sweet
9005 - Heritage or Traditional Cider — Medium or Sweet
9006 - Fruit Cider
9007 - Spiced or Botanical Cider
9008 - Ice Cider
9009 - Other Specialty Cider
SAKE AND RICE WINE
9300 - Sparkling Sake
9301 - Daiginjo
9302 - Ginjo
9303 - Honjozo
9304 - Junmai
9305 - Nigori
9306 - Flavored or Specialty Sake
9307 - Other Sake or Rice Wine

LOW- AND NO-ALCOHOL WINES
9500 - Dealcoholized or Nonalcoholic Sparkling Wine
9501 - Dealcoholized or Nonalcoholic White Wine
9502 - Dealcoholized or Nonalcoholic Rosé Wine
9503 - Nonalcoholic Cider or Perry
9504 - Dealcoholized or Nonalcoholic Red Wine
9505 - Low-Alcohol Wine — 0.5% to less than 7.0% ABV
9506 - Other Low- or No-Alcohol Wine Product