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# CHEERS!

## 2018 CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS

The 40th Vancouver International Wine Festival proudly honoured the people and venues that make such a significant contribution to the B.C. wine and food culture. The following awards were presented at the 15th Annual Awards Lunch featuring Wines from Spain & Portugal on Friday, March 2.

Presented by







### SPIRITED INDUSTRY **PROFESSIONAL**

#### **Barbara Philip MW**

The annual Spirited Industry Professional Award is presented to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the sales, service or promotion of wine in British Columbia.

Barbara was the first Western Canadian to achieve the Master of Wine designation and is the only woman in

Canada with this distinction. For close to 10 years she has managed the European Portfolio at BC Liquor Stores. Through Barbariain Wine Consulting, Barbara has been an international presenter, educator, journalist and judge. Since 2008, she has been the wine columnist on CBC Radio's On the Coast. She has been for many years a judge for Decanter World Wines Awards, the largest wine competition in the world and also been Vice President of the Canadian Association of Professional Sommeliers, BC Chapter.

Presented by





#### **SOMMELIER OF THE YEAR**

#### Sean Nelson, sommelier, Vij's

The Sommelier of the Year Award recognizes working sommeliers who consistently demonstrate an outstanding passion for marrying wine with food and a dedication to exceptional service. Shane Taylor was selected through a hands-on competition organized by the BC Chapter of the Canadian Association of Professional Sommeliers. As Sommelier of the Year, Sean received Delta Air Lines vouchers valued at \$2,000 USD from the festival.

Sean grew up in Greater Vancouver and entered the hospitality industry at age 16 with a job at The Keg Steakhouse & Bar. After being bitten by the wine bug, he completed his WSET Intermediate and Advanced certification with Distinction. In 2013, he became a sommelier at Vij's restaurant and began pursuing the Master Sommelier Diploma. He completed the Introductory Sommelier Certification with 100% on the examination and became Western Canada's youngest Advanced Sommelier in 2016. He plans to sit the Master Sommelier Examination in 2019.

Presented by



In partnership with





Bryant Mao, Hawksworth Restaurant, Lisa Haley, L'Abattoir, Brad Royale, Cilantro, Mike Bernardo, Vij's



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#### - 2018 WINE EXCELLENCE PROGRAM WINNERS

These awards pay tribute to restaurateurs who have committed to producing an original and creative wine program. Participating restaurants received careful consideration of their wine program by some of the finest, most professional judges in Western Canada.

Our judges: Tom Doughty, Jay Jones, DJ Kearney, Iain Philip, Jason Yamasaki

Bookmark VanWineFest.ca/tradedays/2018-wine-program-excellence-award-winners for your guide to restaurants with great wine programs.

#### 41<sup>ST</sup> VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL WINE FESTIVAL February 23-March 3, 2019



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#### **METRO VANCOUVER**

#### **Platinum**

L'Abattoir Blue Water Cafe + Raw Bar Burdock & Co. CinCin Ristorante + Bar Hawksworth Restaurant Vij's

#### Gold

Chambar Mak N Ming – Best New Entry

Mission Mott 32

Nightingale

Provence Marinaside/The Wine Bar

Savio Volpe

Tap Restaurant

Yuwa Japanese Cuisine

Silver

Ancora Waterfront Dining and Patio Boulevard Kitchen & Oyster Bar Fable Kitchen

Forage Joe Fortes Seafood & Chop House PiDGiN

The Stable House Bistro

Wildebeest

#### **Bronze** Le Crocodile

Homer St. Cafe and Bar Tableau Bar Bistro Tramonto at River Rock Casino Resort Tuc Craft Kitchen West Restaurant

#### **Honourable Mention**

The Mackenzie Room Yew Seafood + Bar

#### WHISTLER

#### Gold

Araxi Restaurant + Oyster Bar

#### Silver

Alta Bistro

#### **Bronze**

Basalt Wine + Salumeria

#### **VANCOUVER ISLAND**

## Gold

Agrius Restaurant (Victoria) Silver

Nourish Kitchen & Café (Victoria) OLO Restaurant (Victoria)

#### **Honourable Mention** 10 Acres Kitchen (Victoria)

Artisan Bistro (Victoria) Ocean7 AQUA Bistro at Kingfisher Resort (Courtenay)

Pacific Prime Restaurant & Lounge, The Beach Club Resort (Parksville) Unsworth Restaurant (Mill Bay)

#### **BC INTERIOR**

#### Gold

Emerald Lake Lodge (Field)

#### **ALBERTA**

#### Platinum

Cilantro (Calgary)

#### Gold

The Lake House (Calgary) Vin Room Mission (Calgary) Vin Room YYC Airport (Calgary)

Buffalo Mountain Lodge (Banff) Deer Lodge (Lake Louise) Rouge (Calgary) Vin Room West (Calgary)

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