2021 Press Democrat North Coast Wine Challenge

Santa Rosa, CA April 06, 2021

Best of the Best

Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyard	2014 Sonoma Cutrer Vineyards Grand Cuvee Methode Traditionelle	Sonoma County, Russian River Valley		Late Disgorge	99	This has got everything. Green apple, quince paste. layers of flavor. Honeysuckle, hint of butterscotch, lemon curd, Very well made, Creme brulee

Best of Lake County

Brassfield Estate Winery	2020 Brassfield Estate Winery Sauvignon Blanc	High Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		97	Citrus,outdoorsy quality,floral,fresh spice.

Best of Mendocino County

Navarro Vineyards	2019 Navarro Vineyards Riesling	Anderson Valley	Late Harvest	Cluster Select	98	Very delicate on the nose, very rich on the palate

Best of Napa County

Michael Pozzan Winery	2018 Pozzan Zinfandel	Oakville	Barrel Aged		98	Great pepper, spice, cartwheels on palate.

Best of Show - Mead

McGee’s Mead LLC	NV McGee’s Mead Co Honey de los Muertos	Napa Valley, St. Helena	Unoaked & Unfiltered	Mead/Honey wine	94	Masterfully integrated flavors of apple,lime peel & hibiscus with subtle notes of honey,a note of desirable bitterness. Presents like an Italian apertif-balanced,neither boozy nor overly sweet w/subtle spike and fresh apple on the finish.

Best of Show Cider

Gowans Heirloom Cider	NV Gowans Heirloom Cider Heirloom Apple Cider	Anderson Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced	Petillant	95	Green apple, off dry, textural, crisp finish, fresh, spritzy.

Best of Show Dessert/Late Harvest

Navarro Vineyards	2019 Navarro Vineyards Riesling	Anderson Valley	Late Harvest	Cluster Select	98	Very delicate on the nose, very rich on the palate

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Best of Show Fruit

Mimosa Royale LLC	NV Mimosa Royale Berry	Sonoma County			96	Lush,fresh,delicate,vanilla.

Best of Show Red Wine

Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyard	2018 Sonoma Cutrer Vineyards Russian River Valley Pinot Noir	Russian River Valley	Grown, Vinted and Bottled		99	Richness of fruit, cloves and dry herbs.

Best of Show Rosé Wine

Grey Stack	2020 Four Brothers Vineyard Rose	Bennett Valley		Four Brothers	98	Flowery, Zesty acidity; spicy; Pretty and delicate

Best of Show Sparkling Wine

Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyard	2014 Sonoma Cutrer Vineyards Grand Cuvee Methode Traditionelle	Sonoma County, Russian River Valley		Late Disgorge	99	This has got everything. Green apple, quince paste. layers of flavor. Honeysuckle, hint of butterscotch, lemon curd, Very well made, Creme brulee

Best of Show White Wine

Frostwatch Vineyard & Winery	2018 Frostwatch Vineyard & Winery 2018 Frostwatch Vineyard & Winery Chardonnay	Bennett Valley	Estate Grown	Sustainably farmed	98	Vanilla, pineapple, tropical fruit, white floral, green apple.
Halleck Vineyard	2019 Halleck Vineyard Calandrelli Vineyard	Russian River Valley			98	Clean, fresh, bright, true to type, perfumey, flowery.

Best of Solano County AVA

Vezer Family Vineyard LLC	2019 Vezer Family Vineyard Chardonnay / Arlene	Suisun Valley	Barrel Aged		96	Lemon verbena,nice acid,lime oil,spices,ginger,checks a lot of boxes.

Best of Sonoma County

Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyard	2014 Sonoma Cutrer Vineyards Grand Cuvee Methode Traditionelle	Sonoma County, Russian River Valley		Late Disgorge	99	This has got everything. Green apple, quince paste. layers of flavor. Honeysuckle, hint of butterscotch, lemon curd, Very well made, Creme brulee

Best of Class

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Amphora Winery	2017 Amphora GSM	Dry Creek Valley		Aged in Tuscan clay amphorae	97	Berry pie in wild, wild west, earthy, meaty, chewy, Beethoven's 9th symphony, a prize fighter with a one, two punch.
Amphora Winery	2016 Amphora Petite Sirah	Dry Creek Valley		Bevill/Wolcott Vineyard	97	Plush, rich, ripe, Petite Sirah on display.
Beaucanon Estate	2016 Longwood Estate Cabernet Franc Family Reserve	Napa Valley			97	Savory & complex,great expectations,made to age,patience will be rewarded.
Bee Hunter Wine	2017 Bee Hunter Semillon Yorkville Highlands	Yorkville Highlands			94	Hazelnut, age worthy, Anjou pear, citron, developing nicely.
Boatique Winery	2020 Boatique Winery Sauvignon Blanc	Big Valley District	Estate Bottled & Produced		96	"Revenge Vacation". Touch of warmth, floral kick, tropical, ripe fruit.
Brassfield Estate Winery	2020 Brassfield Estate Winery Sauvignon Blanc	High Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		97	Citrus,outdoorsy quality,floral,fresh spice.
deLorimier Winery	2017 deLorimier Winery Mosaic Meritage	Alexander Valley, Sonoma County	Estate Bottled & Produced		95	Dried herbs, deep dark fruit.
Domaine Carneros	2017 Domaine Carneros Brut Rose	Carneros	Methode Traditionnelle	Estate Grown	98	Lovely, nice acidity, classic Champenoise, beautiful structure, perfect rose wine, sultry aromas, great sparkler to read a "Raymond Chandler thriller with.
Eco Terreno Wines & Vineyards	2018 Eco Terreno Wines & Vineyards Cuvée Tierra	Alexander Valley, Sonoma County		Red Blend	98	Bright, Spicy, lively and bold
Famighetti Vineyards	2017 Famighetti Vineyards La Famiglia	Dry Creek Valley	Single Vineyard	Famighetti Vineyards	98	Spicy, wild flowers, bright.
Ferrari-Carano Vineyards and Winery	2018 Ferrari-Carano Siena	Sonoma County			98	Juicy, complex, "Saturday Night Date".
Ferrari-Carano Vineyards and Winery	2020 Ferrari-Carano Pinot Grigio	Sonoma County			94	Very rich, honey comp, honeysuckle, chamomile tea.

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Foppiano Vineyards	2018 Foppiano Vineyards Della's Block Chardonnay	Russian River Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced		97	Lemon, peaches, melon, natural richness; Roasted almond on finish.
Frostwatch Vineyard & Winery	2018 Frostwatch Vineyard & Winery 2018 Frostwatch Vineyard & Winery Chardonnay	Bennett Valley	Estate Grown	Sustainably farmed	98	Vanilla, pineapple, tropical fruit, white floral, green apple.
GALLO	2018 J Vineyards Pinot Noir	Russian River Valley			99	Plump fruit, balanced complexity, wild strawberry. Beautiful fruit to develop over time
Gowans Heirloom Cider	NV Gowans Heirloom Cider Heirloom Apple Cider	Anderson Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced	Petillant	95	Green apple, off dry, textural, crisp finish, fresh, spritzy.
Gracianna Winery	2019 Gracianna Chardonnay	Sonoma County, Russian River Valley			97	Beautiful floral creaminess and acidity creates tension, weight and viscosity. A sleek lush wine that will impress your guests. One to serve when you want to divert the conversation when talking politics gets too heated.
Gracianna Winery	2019 Gracianna Pinot Noir	Russian River Valley	Unfined & Unfiltered	Lasaga Estate	99	Sexy & seductive, "could put this as perfume behind my ears", beautiful aromatics, rose petals, cherry cola, raspberry.
Grey Stack	2020 Four Brothers Vineyard Rose	Bennett Valley		Four Brothers	98	Flowery, Zesty acidity; spicy; Pretty and delicate
Halleck Vineyard	2017 Halleck Vineyard Pinot Noir, Clone 828	Sonoma Coast			98	Beautiful Balance; Big fruit; Spicy palate
Halleck Vineyard	2019 Halleck Vineyard Calandrelli Vineyard	Russian River Valley			98	Clean, fresh, bright, true to type, perfumey, flowery.
Harts Desire Wines	2018 Harts Desire Wines Cabernet Sauvignon	Alexander Valley		King Vineyard	97	Dusty violets, long finish, minty, roundness.

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Imagery Estate Winery	2018 Imagery Estate Winery Malbec, Upper Ridge Vineyard	Pine Mountain - Cloverdale Peak			97	Violets rich soft texture. Fruit driven
J. Rickards Winery	2018 J. Rickards Winery Merlot	Alexander Valley, Sonoma County	Barrel Aged		97	Cherry,great pace & flow,will develop.
Lawer Estates	2019 Lawer Estates Chardonnay	Knights Valley	Unoaked	Cannon Block	97	Wet stone, Meyer lemon.
Lawer Estates	2016 Lawer Estates Syrah	Sonoma Valley		Betsy's Vineyard	97	Rich, luxurious, dense, plush, mouth coating.
Ledson Winery and Vineyards	2017 Ledson Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve	Sonoma County, Alexander Valley	Estate Grown Reserve		97	Youthful, juicy berries, very savory with depth. Soft on the mid-palate.
Lula Cellars	2019 Lula Cellars Founder's Cuvée Pinot Noir	Mendocino			98	Gorgeous Pinot Noir characteristics,dry & fresh fruit. Perfectly handled barrel aging,well rounded & polished.
Materra | Cunat Family Vineyards	2018 Materra | Cunat Family Vineyards Hidden Block	Oak Knoll District			98	Complex, classic Napa, long and elegant, great texture, velvety, black currant, "more please", tobacco.
Mathis Wine	2020 Mathis Wine Rosé de Grenache	Sonoma Valley	Estate Single Vineyard		97	Juicy raspberry, white pepper, hint of stone fruit, brilliantly balanced, "summer in a glass".
McGee’s Mead LLC	NV McGee’s Mead Co Honey de los Muertos	Napa Valley, St. Helena	Unoaked & Unfiltered	Mead/Honey wine	94	Masterfully integrated flavors of apple,lime peel & hibiscus with subtle notes of honey,a note of desirable bitterness. Presents like an Italian apertif-balanced,neither boozy nor overly sweet w/subtle spike and fresh apple on the finish.
Mengler Family Wines	2017 Mengler Family Wines Sangiovese	Russian River Valley		Alegria Vineyards	98	Classic Sangiovese, Italian style.
Michael Pozzan Winery	2018 Pozzan Zinfandel	Oakville	Barrel Aged		98	Great pepper, spice, cartwheels on palate.

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Mimosa Royale LLC	NV Mimosa Royale Berry	Sonoma County			96	Lush,fresh,delicate,vanilla.
Miro Cellars	2019 Miro Cuvee Sasha	Mendocino		Chevalier Vineyard	98	Beautiful sweet & sour cherry,very balanced, loads of baking spices, a WOW wine, stand up and say hello, mocha dust.
Navarro Vineyards	2019 Navarro Vineyards Riesling	Anderson Valley	Late Harvest	Cluster Select	98	Very delicate on the nose, very rich on the palate
Papapietro Perry Winery	2018 Papapietro Perry Winery Pommard Clones ~ Pinot Noir ~ Russian River Valley	Russian River Valley		Clonal	96	Elegant concentrated red fruit; Lifted palate, velvety tannins
PEJU Winery	2018 Peju Old Victorian	Napa Valley	Barrel Aged		95	Complexity, like all pieces fit together, very concentrated.
Peterson Winery	2019 Peterson Winery 3V White Blend	Dry Creek Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced	Bradford Mountain Estate Vineyard	95	Sweet pea flavors, Meyer lemon, vibrant acidity, long lasting.
Pezzi King Vineyards	2018 Pezzi King CHIMISE MOURVEDRE	Dry Creek Valley	Single Vineyard		96	Integrated mouth feel, rich and meaty on the palate, super texture of mocha and coco.
Rockpile Vineyards	2016 Rockpile Vineyards Petit Verdot, Carriage House	Rockpile	Single Vineyard		97	Brilliant flavorful palate; plum; rich structure; cocoa powder
Russian River Vineyards	2016 Russian River Vineyards Landy Cabernet	Sonoma County, Russian River Valley			98	Dark chocolate, good roasted coffee. Black olives. Restrained elegance.
Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyard	2018 Sonoma Cutrer Vineyards Late Harvest Chardonnay	Sonoma County, Russian River Valley			97	Floral, complex. multi-layered, honeysuckle.
Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyard	2014 Sonoma Cutrer Vineyards Grand Cuvee Methode Traditionelle	Sonoma County, Russian River Valley		Late Disgorge	99	This has got everything. Green apple, quince paste. layers of flavor. Honeysuckle, hint of butterscotch, lemon curd, Very well made, Creme brulee

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Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyard	2018 Sonoma Cutrer Vineyards Russian River Valley Pinot Noir	Russian River Valley	Grown, Vinted and Bottled		99	Richness of fruit, cloves and dry herbs.
St. Anne's Crossing	2018 St. Anne's Crossing The Ranch Zinfandel	Dry Creek Valley		The Ranch	98	Chocolate Lush; Cherry; Plush wine; The quintessential expression of zinfandel
Taft Street Winery	2018 Taft Street grenache	Russian River Valley			97	Red flower petals, red fruit aromas, good acidity, first picking of red raspberry, gorgeous, a kiss of spring.
The Meeker Vineyard	2020 The Meeker Vineyard Carbonic Dolcetto	Mendocino			98	Soft and rich. Beautiful fresh aromas of dolcetto. Very authentic Dolcetto. Like you are in your cellar in Piedmont. Pure aromas. Fresh and mouth filling
Trentadue Winery	2019 La Storia La Storia Petite Sirah	Alexander Valley, Sonoma County	Estate		97	Great mouth feel.
Trione Vineyards and Winery	2016 Trione Vineyards & Winery Primitivo	Sonoma County, Alexander Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Home Ranch	96	Chewy, both earthy and rich berries, great nose, concentrated. "You could make a meal of it". Earthy, lots of layers, complex.
Truett Hurst Winery	2014 VML White Label Sparkling	Russian River Valley			99	This is everything. Incredible brilliance. Brioche, apple, crushed oyster shell, complex, Rainier Cherry
Ullage Consulting	2019 Gratus White Blend	Napa County	Estate Grown		91	Baked apple, sweet fruit but balanced, clover apple, ripe apricot, porch pounder.
Vezer Family Vineyard LLC	2019 Vezer Family Vineyard Chardonnay / Arlene	Suisun Valley	Barrel Aged		96	Lemon verbena,nice acid,lime oil,spices,ginger,checks a lot of boxes.

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Wilson Winery of Dry Creek	2018 Wilson of Dry Creek / Sawyer	Zinfandel	Dry Creek Valley	97	Ripe, floral, fresh ground pepper, classic Zinfandel.
Wilson Winery of Dry Creek	2017 Wilson of Dry Creek Sauvignon / Dry Creek Valley	Cabernet	Dry Creek Valley	98	Balance. Quaffable. Good fruit concentrate
Wilson Winery of Dry Creek	2018 Wilson of Dry Creek / Florence	Zinfandel	Dry Creek Valley, Rockpile	98	Old style Zin, elegant & personality, perfectly balanced wine, wild west of Zin, rugged and yet silky.