



“Livermore Valley Uncorked”
2012 Wine Competition Guidelines

2012 Wine Competition Entry Form available at: www.trivalleyconservancy.org

Deadline April 20, 2012

COMPETITION PURPOSE

For the wineries: To help the Livermore Valley wine industry to be noticed by top wine buyers who control purchasing for specialty wine shops, restaurants and other retail distribution points.

PLEASE NOTE KEY DATES:

- **Entry Deadline:** 5pm, April 20, 2012 COB (No exceptions.)
- **Judging will be held:** April 29, 2012 at the Wine Steward in Pleasanton, CA.
- **Announcement of Winners** – TBD please check our website for updated information. www.trivalleyconservancy.org

AWARD CLASSES

Best in Show

- There will be a *trophy* for “***Best in Show***”.
- The trophy will be a rotating trophy, held only during the off season and returned to the competition organizers in time for it to be awarded to the next season’s champions.

Gold medals

- Will be awarded for three classes: ***Best of White***, ***Best of Red*** and ***Best of Dessert***.

Gold ribbons

- Will be awarded for the winner of each of the following categories: Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Blend, Chardonnay, Dessert, Italian Red, Other Bordeaux, Other Red, Other White, Petite Sirah, Sauvignon Blanc, Syrah, and Zinfandel.

HOW WE JUDGE

The Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC) “Livermore Valley Uncorked” Wine Competition 2012 will be judged to the highest standards under the direction of Head Judge, Jim Denham. Jim is a highly respected expert on wine competitions. We are honored to have his leadership.

The judging will be conducted by qualified tasters that will include:

Wine buyers	Wine makers from both large scale and small capacity wineries
Wine writers	Owner/Managers of fine dining establishments
Wine Educators	Certified Sommeliers
Viticulturists	Wine Distributors

- Wines will be assigned to appropriate categories by the applicants.
- All wines are judged “blind,” that is, the judges do not see the labels or know the price or producer in the competition.
- If the judges are faced with an obviously flawed bottle of wine, no more than one additional bottle of the same entry will be opened and tasted.
- Awards will be given on a merit basis. The judges are instructed to grant no awards when, in their opinion, the wines are unworthy, and they are empowered to grant duplicate awards if the quality of wines so merits.
- Glasses used will be ISO Wine tasting glasses
- Temperature of Wines will be between 55 – 60 degrees
- The wine will be tasted within 2 hours of being opened.
- The tasting poured will be 3oz. for red and white – 3oz for dessert

ENTRY RULES

The Tri-Valley Conservancy “Livermore Valley Uncorked” Wine Competition is open to any wines made from grapes grown in the *Livermore Valley AVA* only. **The AVA includes the cities of Danville, Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon and the eastern boundaries of Castro Valley and Sunol.** The wines must be generally available to the buying public through traditional retail or internet channels.

- Entrants are asked to submit their **Signature** and/or **best wines**.
- A maximum of five (5) wines will be accepted from each winery.
- All wines entered into this competition must have Livermore Valley or San Francisco Bay Appellation on the wine label.
- The entered wine must be a finished product that is ready for retail sale. It can be released or unreleased. Barrel samples will not be accepted.
- Winning wines must be made available for purchase to the public for 30 days after official competition results have been announced.

- Entrant is responsible for providing a completed entry form and signing at the bottom of the page 1 to certify that the statements on the form are correct. **Failure to complete the form properly may result in disqualification.** Forms available at www.trivalleyconservancy.org
- An official entry shall consist of three (3) bottles, each bottle no less than 750 ml. or more than 32 oz. in volume.
- An official entry of wines, such as dessert wines, that are bottled only in 375 ml. bottles will consist of six (6) bottles, each no less than 375 ml.
- Any wine that is delivered to the competition without a full and proper label will be disqualified from the judging. We will not accept wines with laboratory, temporary, photocopied or altered labels.
- Best Red, White, and Dessert winners will be showcased at Tri-Valley Conservancy's Jeans & Jewels event October 4, 2012. Three cases of each Best Red, White and Dessert wines must be reserved for Tri-Valley Conservancy (priced at industry discount). **Donations will be graciously accepted and appropriately recognized as so at the event.**

DELIVERING WINE

You must deliver your wines **no later than 5pm** on

Friday April 20, 2012 to:

Tri-Valley Conservancy
1736 Holmes St., Bldg. B
Livermore, California

Deliveries will be accepted from 9 AM to 5 PM M-F through April 20th.
Please call or email if you need to make special arrangements to drop off your wine.

Wine will not be accepted without a completed entry form.

(Entry form available at www.trivalleyconservancy.org)

Questions: call 925-449-8706 or email lvuncorked@trivalleyconservancy.org