



MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 1 May 2024

2024 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

After the success of the 2022 and 2023 events, the Dubbo Winter Whisky Festival (DWWF) returns on 14 and 15 June 2024 as the leading premium craft spirits festival in regional NSW.

This year's naming sponsor, The Landscape Centre, is proud to support the main DWWF event, the whisky festival, hosted at the Dubbo Turf Club from 6pm on Saturday 15 June. The year-on-year growth and success of DWWF means a return of nighttime festival vibes and opportunity for visitors to take home product from some of Australia's leading craft distillers. The festival not only brings tens of thousands in tourism dollars to the region during the event, it brings visitors, local producers, national distillers, live entertainment, and award-winning craft spirits to the one location in Dubbo.

DWWF is proud to once again partner with The Establishment Bar Dubbo to bring a truly unique event to the region, and a much-needed major drawcard festival to the city of Dubbo. This partnership also brings with it the opportunity for an emerging leader in the industry living in regional Australia to undertake a university scholarship in the popular field of distilling.

"We are again offering a scholarship to learn the '*Fundamentals of Spirit Production – A Boutique Perspective*', delivered by the Adelaide University in South Australia," said Mr Rob Bond, DWWF founder and organiser.

"The five-day intensive course takes a practical and industry-oriented approach to provide an introduction to distillation theory and practice - before diving deeper into gin and whisky production," said Mr Bond. "The scholarship recipient will gain an overview of the fundamentals of the distillation process and production of different spirits – learned from an understanding of how various raw agricultural materials are transformed into these spirits."

Industry experts will share their knowledge of distillation and the production of spirits, with a focus on gin, whisky, rum, and vodka. In addition to undertaking the training scholarship, DWWF provides up to \$1,000 in travel assistance to the recipient to assist with training attendance.

2023 scholarship winner, Mr Jock Sweeney from Glen Innes, successfully completed his training and is now a fulltime employee Winding Road Distillery. Jock will return to the 2024 festival as a vendor.

To be eligible to receive scholarship, the applicant must:

- Be from a regional location and have lived in the region for at least 6 months prior to applying.
- Be between 18 and 29 years of age and provide proof-of-age and a current address.
- Provide a general overview of work history.
- Complete a written essay response to criteria questions.
- Receive written recommendation on why they would be suitable recipient from someone within the regional community that they live within and are not related to.
- Be prepared to attend DWWF or any sponsor engagements and give permission for their image/voice to be used in marketing and advertising materials.

For more information and to apply, visit: www.dwwf.com.au/scholarship

Applications are now open and close - 5pm, Sunday 2 June 2024, with the winner notified by email and telephone on Wednesday 12 June 2024.

ENDS

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