

# YOU'RE INVITED

**Celebrate America's 250th anniversary with the First Annual American Heritage Wine Competition. This national event honors wines made from American native, hybrid, and heritage varietals, including Norton, Catawba, Concord, Niagara, Chambourcin, Vidal Blanc, Traminette, Marquette, blends and MANY MORE.**

**Enter to gain national recognition, marketing support, and award assets designed to help your winery stand out while celebrating the grapes and wines that tell America's own wine story.**

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

Your initial registration and payment **must** be made online at [HeritageWineCompetition.com](https://HeritageWineCompetition.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](mailto:info@libationawards.com).

## Registration and Entry Samples Received

**by:** Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Judging:** August 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026

## ELIGIBILITY AND CONDITIONS

1. Any commercial native/heritage wine produced by a professional winery located in the United States (For a complete list see wine code section).
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 four 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 and Bottle Stickers Increase Sales.** Gold medal, best in class and winery of the year will receive medals/plaques. Graphics for the self-production of bottle stickers will be provided. *Bottle stickers are proven to improve 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.

## WE PROVIDE A SIX TIER PROMOTIONAL PLAN

### PROPRIETARY BRANDING

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

### AWARD MEDALS

Gold medal, best in class, and winery of the year will receive medals/plaques. Silver and bronze winners will receive digital medals and certificates.

### 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 press releases to state, regional, and national level media. You may also use the press release for your own marketing purposes.

### SOCIAL MEDIA/WEB EXPOSURE

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

### MEDIA KIT

Winners will receive an extensive media kit to use for self-promotion, including sample press releases, social media images, digital graphics and more.



## HOW TO REGISTER

1. Register your organization and pay the fee of \$85 per entry at [www.HeritageWineCompetition.com](http://www.HeritageWineCompetition.com).
2. Complete the enclosed Wine Information Control sheet using the provided wine category codes and send along with wine samples.
3. Send Two (2) 750ml samples or equivalent of each entry.

## 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
4. ***If you need support with your shipping process, email us at [info@libationawards.com](mailto:info@libationawards.com) and we are happy to assist.***

## 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](mailto:info@libationawards.com)

**UNUSED PORTIONS** At the conclusion of the competition become the property of the **2026 American Heritage Wine Competition**.

**MEDALS AND AWARDS** Gold medal winners will receive physical medals. Silver and Bronze winners will receive digital medals. **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 [HeritageWineCompetition.com](http://HeritageWineCompetition.com)**

### About Libation

Libation is one of the nation’s fastest-growing wine, beer, spirits, and lifestyle brands, reaching more than 200,000 targeted engagements across the beverage and lifestyle community.

Backed by more than 30 years of specialty event coordination, media, and marketing experience, our team produces competitions designed not only to recognize excellence, but to help winners turn that recognition into real brand value.

### Our Philosophy

Libation is on a mission to modernize the wine, beer, and spirits competition landscape through exciting, innovative state, regional, and national events. Our competitions are built to be fair, accessible, and meaningful, with more opportunities for outstanding entries to be recognized.

We believe a medal should be more than an award- it should enhance brand awareness. That is why Libation pairs credible competition results with strong promotional support, helping winners amplify their success, reach new audiences, and stand out in a crowded marketplace.

## WINE CATEGORY CLASS CODES

### 6000 Series — Native American & Historic White Grape Wines

6001 Delaware  
6002 Niagara  
6003 Diamond / Moore's Diamond  
6004 Elvira  
6005 Herbemont  
6006 Noah  
6007 Dutchess  
6008 Prentiss  
6009 Winchell / Green Mountain  
6010 Other Native American White Varietal  
6011 Native American White Blend\*

### 6100 Series — Native American & Historic Red Grape Wines

6101 Norton  
6102 Cynthiana  
6103 Catawba  
6104 Concord  
6105 Isabella  
6106 Ives / Ives Noir  
6107 Alexander  
6108 Lenoir  
6109 Black Spanish  
6110 Jacquez  
6111 Clinton  
6112 Worden  
6113 Moore's Early  
6114 Campbell Early  
6115 Other Native American Red Varietal  
6116 Native American Red Blend\*

### 6200 Series — White / Bronze Muscadine Wines

6201 Scuppernong  
6202 Carlos  
6203 Magnolia  
6204 Doreen  
6205 Fry  
6206 Tara  
6207 Triumph  
6208 Summit  
6209 Lane  
6210 Other White / Bronze Muscadine  
6211 White / Bronze Muscadine Blend\*

### 6300 Series — Red / Black Muscadine Wines

6301 Noble  
6302 Cowart  
6303 Nesbitt

6304 Ison  
6305 Southern Home  
6306 Black Beauty  
6307 Other Red / Black Muscadine  
6308 Red / Black Muscadine Blend\*

### 6400 Series — White French-American Hybrid Wines

6401 Seyval Blanc  
6402 Vidal Blanc  
6403 Vignoles  
6404 Ravat 51  
6405 Aurore  
6406 Villard Blanc  
6407 Baco Blanc  
6408 Other White French-American Hybrid  
6409 White French-American Hybrid Blend\*

### 6500 Series — Red French-American Hybrid Wines

6501 Chambourcin  
6502 Baco Noir  
6503 Marechal Foch  
6504 Leon Millot  
6505 Chancellor  
6506 De Chaunac  
6507 Chelois  
6508 Villard Noir  
6509 Rougeon  
6510 Landot Noir  
6511 Colobel  
6512 Cascade  
6513 Other Red French-American Hybrid  
6514 Red French-American Hybrid Blend\*

### 6600 Series — White American-Bred Hybrid Wines

6601 Cayuga White  
6602 Chardonel  
6603 Traminette  
6604 Valvin Muscat  
6605 Aromella  
6606 Melody  
6607 Horizon  
6608 Blanc du Bois  
6609 Lake Emerald  
6610 Other White American Hybrid  
6611 White American Hybrid Blend\*

### 6700 Series — Red American-Bred Hybrid Wines

6701 Noiret  
6702 Corot Noir  
6703 Arandell  
6704 GR 7 / Geneva Red  
6705 Lomanto

- 6706 Favorite
- 6707 Conquistador
- 6708 Valjohn
- 6709 Other Red American Hybrid
- 6710 Red American Hybrid Blend\*

**6800 Series — White Cold-Climate Hybrid Wines**

- 6801 La Crescent
- 6802 Frontenac Gris
- 6803 Frontenac Blanc
- 6804 Itasca
- 6805 Brianna
- 6806 Edelweiss
- 6807 La Crosse
- 6808 St. Pepin
- 6809 Prairie Star
- 6810 Louise Swenson
- 6811 Swenson White
- 6812 Other White Cold-Climate Hybrid
- 6813 White Cold-Climate Hybrid Blend\*

**6900 Series — Red Cold-Climate Hybrid Wines**

- 6901 Frontenac
- 6902 Marquette
- 6903 St. Croix
- 6904 Sabrevois
- 6905 Petite Pearl
- 6906 Crimson Pearl
- 6907 Valiant
- 6908 King of the North
- 6909 Bluebell
- 6910 Other Red Cold-Climate Hybrid
- 6911 Red Cold-Climate Hybrid Blend\*

**7000 Series — Rosé Heritage Wines**

- 7001 Native American Rosé Wine
- 7002 Muscadine Rosé Wine
- 7003 French-American Hybrid Rosé Wine
- 7004 American Hybrid Rosé Wine
- 7005 Cold-Climate Hybrid Rosé Wine
- 7006 Mission Rosé Wine
- 7007 Heritage Rosé Blend\*
- 7008 Other Heritage Rosé Wine

**7100 Series — Sparkling Heritage Wines**

- 7101 Native American Sparkling Wine
- 7102 Muscadine Sparkling Wine
- 7103 French-American Hybrid Sparkling Wine
- 7104 American Hybrid Sparkling Wine
- 7105 Cold-Climate Hybrid Sparkling Wine
- 7106 Mission Sparkling Wine
- 7107 Heritage Sparkling Blend\*
- 7108 Other Heritage Sparkling Wine

**7200 Series — Dessert Heritage Wines**

- 7201 Native American Dessert Wine
- 7202 Muscadine Dessert Wine
- 7203 French-American Hybrid Dessert Wine
- 7204 American Hybrid Dessert Wine
- 7205 Cold-Climate Hybrid Dessert Wine
- 7206 Mission Dessert Wine
- 7207 Heritage Dessert Blend\*
- 7208 Other Heritage Dessert Wine

**7300 Series — Fortified Heritage Wines**

- 7301 Native American Fortified Wine
- 7302 Muscadine Fortified Wine
- 7303 French-American Hybrid Fortified Wine
- 7304 American Hybrid Fortified Wine
- 7305 Cold-Climate Hybrid Fortified Wine
- 7306 Angelica-Style Mission Wine
- 7307 Heritage Fortified Blend\*
- 7308 Other Heritage Fortified Wine

**7400 Series — Mission & Colonial Heritage Wines**

- 7401 Mission
- 7402 Listán Prieto
- 7403 Criolla / Criolla Chica
- 7404 Mission Blend\*
- 7405 Other Mission / Colonial Varietal

**7500 Series — Wild / Species-Based American Wines**

- | Code | Variety / Species                                   |
|------|---|
| 7501 | Mustang   |
| 7502 | Vitis riparia / Riverbank Grape                     |
| 7503 | Vitis labrusca                                      |
| 7504 | Vitis aestivalis                                    |
| 7505 | Vitis rotundifolia                                  |
| 7506 | Vitis lincecumii                                    |
| 7507 | Vitis californica                                   |
| 7508 | Plymouth  |
| 7509 | Other Documented Wild / Species-Based American Wine |

**7600 Series — General Heritage Blends & Specialty Wines**

- 7601 Heritage White Blend\*
- 7602 Heritage Red Blend\*
- 7603 Heritage Vinifera Blend\*
- 7604 Mixed Native / Hybrid Heritage Blend\*
- 7605 Experimental Heritage Wine\*
- 7606 Other American Heritage Wine

**\*at least 51% of the blend must be from qualifying native or heritage varietals**

