

**Media Release** 



February 10, 2020

## **Unearthing Australia's finest wines**

The hunt is on for Australian wines worthy of raising a glass to, with entries now open for the prestigious Royal Queensland Wine Show (RQWS).

The competition will also award a \$12,000 RNA fellowship to the maker of the Angelo Puglisi Grand Champion Wine of Show, to be used for travel, training and education to further their winemaking skills.

Australia's first capital city wine show of the season will also set the benchmark for the industry and let consumers know which bottles to enjoy.

Chief Judge Jim Chatto said a new trophy award has been introduced this year.

"We now have a trophy specifically for varieties of Italian origin, being awarded to the Best Sangiovese, Montepulciano, Nero D'Avola, Barbera, Dolcetto, Nebbiolo and blends thereof of show," he said.

"The newer 'emerging' varieties and blends are quickly becoming very important to the Australian wine industry for their suitability to our warmer and arid climates.

"In my second year as Chief Judge, I'm really looking forward to working with the judging team and seeing the quality of the 2018 and 2019 vintages across the country."

Mr Chatto will lead a team of 26 highly experienced judges including winemakers, sommeliers, restaurateurs, retailers and educators.

"The diversity of our judges' experience helps cast a broad net towards finding the very best wines right across the spectrum of style," Mr Chatto said.

Winemakers will also have the chance to showcase their top drops to more than 800 consumers at the Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show's (RQFWS) Grape Grazing event on Friday July 10.

Entries must be in by Friday 1 May with judging taking place from Monday 29 June and the winners to be announced at an awards presentation on July 10, prior to Grape Grazing.

To enter go to www.rqfws.com.au

## ENTRIES CLOSE - FRIDAY 1 MAY

## JUDGING - MONDAY 29 JUNE TO THURSDAY 2 JULY

## AWARDS PRESENTATION - FRIDAY 10 JULY

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