

Society of Wine Educators Announces Two New Scholarship Programs

For Immediate Release

June 15, 2011, Washington, DC...The Society of Wine Educators proudly announces the creation of two new scholarship programs, one for students at participating non-profit educational institutions, and the other SWE Members. The scholarships cover the full cost of pursuing the Certified Specialist of Wine (CSW) certification, including exam fees and a copy of the CSW Study Guide. Winners will be announced at the annual SWE conference. This year, the conference is being held in Providence, Rhode Island from August 3rd – 5th, 2011.

Scholarships for Students

One CSW scholarship will be awarded yearly to a student at each participating school. This is open to students of non-profit educational organizations with hospitality and/or wine and spirits programs that offer the CSW exam. For 2011, the participating schools are:

- Johnson & Wales University, Providence, RI
- Collins College of Hospitality Management at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, CA

Faculty members at the approved schools will nominate a deserving scholar one month before the annual conference. Since these scholarships are determined by the faculty of the school, no application is necessary. Schools that are interested in participating in the scholarship program may submit their schools for consideration by contacting Linda Lawry at l.lawry@internationalwinecenter.com. SWE's Scholarship Committee will review and approve submissions and institutions. Scholarships are valid for one year following the conference. All decisions of the Committee are final.

Scholarships for SWE Members

Three CSW scholarships will be awarded to members of SWE each year. Any current member of SWE may apply. Application forms are available by request; all those interested in applying should use the above email. The deadline for the application is July 8, 2011 for 2012. Each application must include:

- a 500-word paper addressing the applicant's goals as part of the wine and spirits community and why they wish to pursue their wine education
- two professional or academic letters of recommendation
- a resumé

The mission of the non-profit Society of Wine Educators is to advance wine and spirits education through professional development and certification. Founded in 1974 by a group of wine professionals at the UC Davis campus, the Society is now headquartered in Washington, DC. The Society has over 2,600 members in 13 different countries. The Society offers three types of certification: 1) Certified Specialist of Wine (CSW), geared to the intermediate wine professional; 2) Certified Specialist of Spirits (CSS); and 3) Certified Wine Educator (CWE), recognizing a higher level of achievement, and requiring a written exam, sensory evaluations, and a teaching presentation. In addition to gaining a depth of knowledge, people who achieve certification are viewed as prize candidates for jobs in the wine, spirits and hospitality industries.

For more information about the Society of Wine Educators, please visit www.societyofwineeducators.org

Media inquiries, write to a Robbins@dunnrobbsgroup.com