

**THE FINGER LAKES REGION REIGNS AT THE 2010 NEW YORK WINE & FOOD CLASSIC**  
***Swedish Hill Winery Wins New York State Governor's Cup***  
***Sheldrake Point Vineyards Wins Winery of the Year***

Watkins Glen, New York, AUGUST 17—Swedish Hill Winery Riesling Cuvee from the Finger Lakes won the coveted “Governor’s Cup” trophy at the 2010 New York Wine & Food Classic competition, held on August 16 & 17 at the Glen Harbor Hotel in Watkins Glen, NY. The “Winery of the Year” award went to Sheldrake Point Vineyards, another Finger Lakes winery, for the second year in a row.

The elegant Governor’s Cup, a large silver chalice, recognizes the “Best of Show” or top prize of all 850 entries in the Classic, known as “The Oscars” of New York wine. The “Winery of the Year” award is presented to the winery with the best overall showing based on the level and number of awards in relation to entries.

This year’s competition included 850 New York wines and 17 spirits from the Long Island, Hudson Valley, Finger Lakes, Niagara Escarpment, Lake Erie, and other regions of New York State. The Swedish Hill Riesling Cuvee was also voted Best Vinifera Sparkling and Best Overall Sparkling on its way to the ultimate award. Sheldrake Point Vineyards received 2 Double Golds, 2 Gold, 4 Silver, and 2 Bronze awards on its way to the Winery of the Year award.

A “Specialty Wine Champion” award was added in 2008 to recognize consistent quality among the increasing number of wines made from fruits other than grapes, or honey. The 2010 winner was ELF’s Farm Winery and Cider Mill with 1 Double Gold and 2 Silver awards. A new “Best New York Spirit” award went to Finger Lakes Distilling Seneca Drums Gin.

The awards were based on blind tastings by 24 expert judges—4 from California, 12 from New York, 6 from other states and 2 from the United Kingdom. Judges included prominent wine writers, restaurateurs, retailers, and wine educators. Four-judge panels determined the initial awards, with top-scoring wines evaluated by all 24 judges for Best of Category and Governor’s Cup awards.

Celebrating its 25th year, the Classic is organized by Teresa Knapp of the New York Wine & Grape Foundation, and is open to all 280 New York wineries from all regions. In 2010, a total of 32 Double Gold, 74 Gold, 284 Silver, and 250 Bronze medals were awarded. In addition, “Best of Category” and “Best of Class” designations were awarded to wines rated as the finest in various areas. Double Gold medals require unanimity among a panel’s judges that a wine deserves a Gold medal, whereas Gold medals require a majority vote.

**The “Best of Category” awards, all eligible for the Governor’s Cup, went to:**

Best Sparkling Wine	Swedish Hill Winery Riesling Cuvee
Best White Wine	Keuka Lake Vineyards 2009 Semi Dry Riesling
Best Rosé Wine	Arbor Hill Grapery Cories Hill Iona Rose
Best Red Wine	Bedell Cellars 2008 Cabernet Franc

Best Dessert Wine	Casa Larga Vineyards 2007 Fiori Delle Stelle Vidal Ice Wine
Best Specialty Wine	Torrey Ridge Winery Scarlet Red
Best New York Spirit	Finger Lakes Distilling Seneca Drums Gin

**The “Best of Class” awards went to:**

Best Vinifera Sparkling	Swedish Hill Winery Riesling Cuvee
Best Sparkling	Swedish Hill Winery Riesling Cuvee
Best Unoaked Chardonnay	Coyote Moon Vineyards Naked Chardonnay
Best Overall Chardonnay	Coyote Moon Vineyards Naked Chardonnay
Best Dry Riesling	McGregor Vineyard 2008 Riesling
Best Medium Dry Riesling	Keuka Lake Vineyards 2009 Semi Dry Riesling
Best Medium Sweet Riesling	Lamoreaux Landing Wine Cellars 2009 Semi Dry Riesling
Best Overall Riesling	Keuka Lake Vineyards 2009 Semi Dry Riesling
Best Niagara	Schulze Vineyards & Winery Thirty Mile Point Sweet Niagara
Best Gewürztraminer	Sheldrake Point Vineyards 2008 Gewürztraminer
Best Cayuga White	Swedish Hill Winery 2009 Cayuga White
Best Traminette	Bet the Farm Winery 2009 Traminette
Best Vidal Blanc	Swedish Hill Winery 2009 Vidal Blanc
Best Vignoles	Lucas Vineyards 2009 Vignoles
Best Hybrid White	Thousand Islands Winery Wellesley Island White
Best Diamond	Torrey Ridge Winery Diamond
Best Native White Blend	Niagara Landing Wine Cellars 2009 Rosebud Gold
Best Vinifera Rosé	McGregor Vineyard 2009 Rosé D’Cabernet Franc
Best Native Rosé	Arbor Hill Grapery Coriesa Hill Iona Rosé
Best Cabernet Franc	Bedell Cellars 2008 Cabernet Franc
Best Other Vinifera Red Varietal	Fulkerson Winery 2008 Dornfelder
Best Vinifera Red Blend	Peconic Bay Winery Nautique Esprit De Rouge

Best Native Red Blend	Penguin Bay Winery Tuxedo Red
Best Concord	Eagle Crest Vineyards 2009 Canal Boat Red
Best Fruit Wine	ELF's Farm Winery and Cider Mill 2009 Appalachian Trail Apple Wine
Best Mead	Torrey Ridge Winery Scarlet Red
Best Late Harvest	Dr. Konstantin Frank Vinifera Wine Cellars 2008 Bunch Select Late Harvest Riesling
Best Ice Wine	Casa Larga Vineyards 2007 Fiori Delle Stelle Vidal Ice Wine

Complete results of the 2010 Classic will soon be posted under "New York Gold" at [www.newyorkwines.org](http://www.newyorkwines.org), which also includes Gold medal New York wines from other major competitions.

Media Contact: Jim Trezise, 585-394-3620, ext. 203