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Virginia Wines Shine at 29th San Diego International Wine Competition Four golds and two silvers added to growing list of prestigious awards

Richmond, Va. (Apr. 26, 2012) - Virginia Wines continue to show well on the international stage, this time at one of the longest running wine competitions in the United States. Barrel Oak, Ingleside, Keswick and North Gate Vineyards all were awarded gold medals, and Barrel Oak, Gray Ghost, Ingleside, Jefferson and Keswick Vineyards were awarded silver medals at the 29th San Diego International Wine Competition held March 10 -11, 2012.

Chief Judge Michael Franz, editor, Wine Review Online, presided over the competition, which included more than 1,700 wines from around the world. The panel of 37 judges included winemakers, writers, consultants, and sommeliers located throughout California. Virginia wines and medal winners are listed below. For a complete list of judges and winners, visit: http://www.sdiwc.com/

Barrel Oak Winery

Gold 2009 Cabernet Franc, Reserve Virginia \$34.00 Silver 2009 Petit Verdot. Reserve Virginia \$39.00 Gold 2010 Chardonnay, Reserve Virginia \$29.00 Silver 2010 Viognier, Reserve Virginia \$28.00

Gray Ghost Vineyards & Winery

Silver 2011 Adieu, Late Harvest Vidal Virginia \$24.00 Silver 2010 Chardonnay, Reserve, Barrel Fermented Virginia \$25.00

Ingleside Vineyards

Silver 2007 Petit Verdot Virginia \$19.95 Gold 2007 Petit Verdot, Reserve Virginia \$26.95

Jefferson Vineyards

Silver 2009 Meritage Monticello, Virginia \$29.95 Silver 2010 Chardonnay, Reserve Monticello \$23.95

Keswick Vineyards

Silver 2010 Cabernet Franc Monticello, Virginia \$21.95

Silver 2010 Merlot Monticello, Virginia \$19.95 Gold 2010 Viognier, Estate Reserve Monticello, Virginia \$21.95

North Gate Vineyard

Gold 2010 Cabernet Franc Virginia \$18.00

The rapid growth of Virginia's vibrant wine industry has made it one of the fastest growing agricultural sectors in the state. In 1979, there were only six wineries in Virginia. Today, there are over 380 vineyards that cultivate over 3,000 acres of grapes and over 200 wineries in Virginia. The state's wine industry's growth is escalating as fast as the state's advancements in wine quality and reputation. For a complete list of winners and further information about events, tours and tastings, please visit the Virginia Wine Marketing Office's website at http://www.virginiawine.org/ or call 1-804-344-8200.