

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2021 Craft Distillers Spirits Competition Winners Announced

Best of Show Awarded to Sran Spirits, LLC Daru - Canadian Whiskey, Premium

January 4, 2021 (Santa Rosa, Calif.) -- Winners have been announced for the 2021 Craft Distillers Spirits Competition, which took place in Santa Rosa, Calif., in December 2021. Taking the top spot this year is Sran Spirits' Daru Canadian Whiskey, which one judge described as "smooth, elegant, sophisticated, soft floral, sweet fruit — a gold medal winner for sure!" At the end of the competition, Daru took a double gold medal as well as Best of the Best honors.

According to the company website (daruwhiskey.com), Sran Spirits was started by two brothers, who were inspired by their father's history of making spirits in his native India. Daru is an Indian-inspired whiskey with a 100% Canadian corn blend that gives it a uniquely sweet and fruity taste. Aged for a minimum of three years in Canadian oak barrels, Daru also undergoes filtration through activated charcoal, creating a remarkably smooth palate with touches of vanilla throughout.

Debra Del Fiorentino, who owns, manages and produces professional competitions in the wine, cider and spirits categories, established the Craft Distillers Spirits Competition in 2017 to give smaller producers a place to shine. Any distiller that is bonded and sells its spirits publicly can enter, no matter where in the world it's headquartered. The 2021 competition saw the number of entries nearly triple over its predecessor, continuing the expansion experienced each year since its founding.

"As a fairly young competition, we're still experiencing growth in our entry pool as word gets out," says Del Fiorentino. "It's absolutely the right time to spotlight small producers, many of which are struggling for survival right now. Any support we can offer to keep these amazing craft distilleries in business is definitely worth our efforts."

The competition is judged by fellow distillers; qualified members of the media; spirits and distilling educators and researchers; and retail buyers. This mix of experts gives the results professional weight and increases marketing opportunities for medal winners. A full list of gold medal winners and above follows this announcement. Del Fiorentino also thanks competition sponsor, Neat glassware (www.theneatglass.com).

The next Craft Distillers Spirits Competition will take place December 14-15, 2022; deadline for entry is December 6, 2022.

For more information, visit Wine and Spirit Competitions Management and Production at <https://www.winecompetitions.com>

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2021 Craft Distillers Spirits Competition Gold Medals and Above

Best of Show

Sran Spirits, LLC., Daru Canadian Whiskey

Bourbon

Best Bourbon

Frontier Spirits Luckenbach Road Whiskey - straight bourbon whiskey

Double Gold

Garrison Brothers Cowboy - small batch bourbon 10 years and younger, luxury (\$70.01 and higher)

Gold Medal

Copper Sky Distillery 5 Year Bourbon - small batch bourbon 10 years and younger

Garrison Brothers Single Barrel - small batch bourbon 10 years and younger, luxury (\$70.01 and higher)

Garrison Brothers Balmorhea - small batch bourbon 10 years and younger, luxury (\$70.01 and higher)

Garrison Brothers Small Batch - small batch bourbon 10 years and younger, luxury (\$70.01 and higher)

Garrison Brothers HoneyDew - small batch bourbon 10 years and younger, luxury (\$70.01 and higher)

Thornton Distilling Company, Dead Drop American Pecan Bourbon

Brandy

Best Brandy

E. & J. Gallo Winery, E & J Brandy, XO

Cognac

Best Cognac

Sire Spirits, Branson Cognac, VSOP Grand Champagne

Gold Medal

Sire Spirits, Branson Cognac, VSOP Royal (Cognac VSOP or equivalent)

Sire Spirits, Branson Cognac, XO (Cognac XO or equivalent)

Sire Spirits, Branson Cognac, VS Phantom (Cognac VS/Three Star Gold or equivalent)

Gin

Best Gin

E. & J. Gallo Winery, New Amsterdam Gin

Gold Medal

Foss Beverage, Fossman Gin

Liqueurs

Best of Class

Jack From Brooklyn Sorel - herbal/botanicals liqueurs

Tequila

Best Tequila

E. & J. Gallo Winery Familia Camarena - tequila reposado

Best Silver/Gold (Non-Aged) Tequila

E. & J. Gallo Winery Don Fulano Tequila Blanco

Best Añejo Tequila

E. & J. Gallo Winery Familia Camarena Tequila Añejo

Best Extra-Aged Añejo

Cierto Spirits Inc. Highland Collection Tequila - Extra Añejo

Gold Medal

Cierto Spirits Inc. Reserve Collection - Extra Añejo

Cierto Spirits Inc., Cierto Tequila, Private Collection - Añejo

E. & J. Gallo Winery, Familia Camarena, Tequila Silver/Plato

Ready to Drink (RTD)

Gold Medal

E. & J. Gallo Winery LIQS Margarita

Rum

Best Rum

Precision Wine Co. Navigator Rum

Double Gold

Red River Brewery and Distillery, Silver King Vodka

Gold Medal

Rock Creek Distillery Dead Parrot Silver Rum

Sugarlands Shine, Mark & Digger's Hazelnut Rum - rum flavored/infused

Vodka

Best Vodka

Satellite Spirits South Fork Vodka

Gold Medal

Rock Creek Distillery Schultz Vodka

Whiskey

Best of Class Ultra-Premium (\$40.01 - \$70.00)

The Brand Guild, Uncle Nearest 1884 Small Batch Whiskey - Tennessee whiskey

Best of Class Premium (\$25.01 - \$40.00)

Three Crosses American Blended Whiskey

Gold Medal

Alley 6 Craft Distillery American Single Malt Whiskey - American craft gold whiskey, ultra-premium
(\$40.01 - \$70.00)

Three Crosses Noble Hound Blended Rye Whiskey - small batch American aged rye whiskey, premium
(\$25.01 - \$40.00)

The Brand Guild, Uncle Nearest Premium Whiskey, Master Blend Edition - Tennessee whiskey, luxury
(\$70.01 and higher)

The Brand Guild, Uncle Nearest 1820 Premium Single Barrel Whiskey - US-53 - Tennessee whiskey, gold
luxury (\$70.01 and higher)

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