

News Release

Swedenburg Estate Vineyard
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Swedenburg Estate Vineyard Announces New Winemaker

Middleburg, May 5th, 2010 – Swedenburg Estate Vineyard announced today the hiring of winemaker Curtis Vincent. Since his arrival in Virginia in 2007, Vincent has crafted wines that have earned dozens of awards including many in California. His wine won a double gold medal for the 2008 Albariño at the Los Angeles International Wine and Spirits Competition, a gold medal at the Critics Challenge International Wine Competition, a gold medal for the 2008 Viognier at the Riverside International Wine Competition a silver medal at the San Francisco Chronicle International Wine Competition. In Virginia the Viognier won the Virginia Governor's Cup. The 2007 Petite Manseng won gold at the San Diego International Wine Competition and his 2007 Barrel Select Norton garnered a Unanimous Gold at the Riverside International Wine Competition and also won the coveted Jefferson Cup. For a complete listing of all the wine he made that has won awards click here. (www.facebook.com/curtis.vincent1)

"I am excited to announce that Curtis Vincent is the new winemaker at Swedenburg Estate Vineyard" said owner Marc Swedenburg, "Curtis is well known for his winemaking ability as well as respected by his peers. I am proud to be carrying on the winemaking tradition that my parents started over 20 years ago and I am excited that Curtis has agreed to create wines that reflect our family's dream of continued excellence." Swedenburg Estate Vineyard was established in 1980 by Juanita and Wayne Swedenburg and remains a family run vineyard dedicated to exceptional wines.

When asked about Swedenburg's decision to hire Vincent, Chris Pearmund, managing partner of Vint Hill Craft winery, The Winery at La Grange and Pearmund Cellars, offered his opinion that "Virginia's young and fast growing wine industry is always in need of formally trained wine professionals. Too many of us are self taught and lacking in the technical detail people like Curtis bring. Curtis has all the talents we need, education, trained palette, easy-going personality, and he's just a good guy. Anyone should be proud to have him as their winemaker."

Previous to his wine making carrier Vincent was a chef in Santa Barbara, CA. He studied Viticulture and Enology at the California State University, Fresno while working at the campus' winery. Moving to Virginia in the summer of 2007, he took over for Mark Bunter as the winemaker at Chrysalis Vineyards.

Bunter, now a winemaker and consultant from Napa Valley, said that "Curtis impressed me with his knowledge, dedication to quality, and innovative creativity. As you know, growing and making wine in Virginia poses more challenges and demands more ingenuity, originality and courage, than is the case in places like Napa. Your wine is in good hands. I know because I left a vintage in barrel upon my departure from Chrysalis. I was fortunate that Curtis was the one who assumed charge of those wines. I am pleased that both Swedenburg Estate and Curtis Vincent have found worthy counterparts."

When asked about his move to Swedenburg Vincent said, "I am excited to be working with Swedenburg Estate Vineyards, one of the oldest vineyards in Virginia. This is a wonderful opportunity to continue a historic tradition and make great wine. Juanita Swedenburg's ground breaking work to ensure that we can ship wines outside of the state opens a world of possibility for the future of wine distribution in Virginia. I look forward to expanding my talents and learning general management as it applies to our industry."

Swedenburg Estate Vineyard is a small family owned business located in Middleburg, VA on the historic Valley View Farm (c. 1762). The Swedenburg family continues the winemaking tradition started by Juanita and Wayne Swedenburg over 20 years ago. Swedenburg is one of the oldest vineyards in the state of Virginia and focuses on the cultivation of vinifera grapes and the production of European style wines.

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