

25 October 2016

WCA ANNOUNCES FINALISTS FOR THE 2016 WINE COMMUNICATOR AWARDS

Wine Communicators of Australia (WCA) has today announced the finalists in the seven categories of the 2016 Wine Communicator Awards.

The extended awards program is now in its 4th year. The Wine Communicator of the Year award was introduced in 2004 and the awards extended to enable WCA to celebrate the depth and diversity of wine communication in all of its forms.

Ten experienced and respected wine industry professionals have been selected to judge entries in six of the awards categories, with three panels each assessing two categories.

The New Wine Writer of the Year Award is judged independently by *Gourmet Traveller WINE* editor Judy Sarris, contributing editor Huon Hooke and WCA Deputy Chair Angie Bradbury.

The overall Wine Communicator of the Year award will then be chosen from the category winners by the WCA Board and announced at the awards night in Sydney on 8th November 2016.

WCA Chairman Angus Barnes said “we are thrilled with the diversity and calibre of entries this year. We received more than 50 entries across all seven categories and the feedback from the judges has been tremendous.”

The finalists for each category are:

CATEGORY	FINALISTS
Best Wine Book (Technical, Trade or Consumer) Sponsored by: <i>Calabria Family Wines</i>	Tipsy Paired: Champagne and Sparkling Wines Kay Brothers: The first 125 years
Best Wine Publication (Technical, Trade or Consumer) Sponsored by: <i>Pernod Ricard</i>	Gourmet Traveller Wine Wine and Viticulture Journal Explore Wine
Digital Wine Communicator of the Year Sponsored by: <i>drinks Association</i>	Jane Thomson Frank Brown James Scarcebrook
Best Wine Website or Wine App	Gourmet Traveller Wine Elderton Wines St Hugo
Best Published Feature Articles or Wine Column Sponsored by: <i>Treasury Wine Estate</i>	Ben Canaider Jeni Port Jane Faulkner

<p>Best Wine Educator Sponsored by: The Wine Society</p>	<p>Jenny Polack David Roe Alex Prichard</p>
<p>Best New Wine Writer Award Sponsored by: Gourmet Traveller WINE</p>	<p>Fergal Gleeson Josh Martin Ben Moroney</p>

Angus went on to say that “the judges were delighted to see such a broad representation of entries from long-established wine businesses to new individuals and brands helping to take the Australian wine message to the world.”

More details of the each award and a precis of the finalists work can be found at www.winecommunicators.com.au.

Tickets for the awards night are still available and can be purchased for \$75 members or \$99 non-members from the WCA website <http://www.winecommunicators.com.au/Events/Upcoming-Events/2016-WCA-Wine-Awards.aspx> .

For further information or enquiries on the awards and judging process please contact Lynda Schenk, WCA Executive Officer on 0400 811 002 or exec@winecommunicators.com.au

ABOUT WCA

Wine Communicators of Australia was established as a national not-for-profit company in December 2010 growing out of the well-respected Wine Press Clubs of NSW, Victoria and South Australia. It aims to be Australia's pre-eminent organisation connecting business professionals working with wine and currently has more than 500 members.

WCA's annual program includes networking events, webinars and its prestigious lunches in association with three major capital city wine shows – Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. It also runs the annual Wine Communicator Awards and Legend of the Vine Awards.

ABOUT THE WINE COMMUNICATOR AWARDS

The annual WCA Wine Communicator Awards recognise outstanding contribution to, and excellence in, wine communication in all its forms.

In each category, a short list of finalists is reviewed and selected by the panel of expert judges. A winner is then chosen in consultation with WCA Board.

The overall Wine Communicator of the Year is then chosen from the category winners. Previous winners have included Tyson Stelzer, Jeni Port, Huon Hooke, Jane Ferrari, James Halliday and Campbell Mattinson.