

**Wine Communicator Awards finalists announced**

Wine Communicators of Australia (WCA) has today announced the finalists in the 10 categories of the 2017 Wine Communicator Awards.

Following judges feedback in 2016, this year both the 'Best Wine Book' and 'Best Wine Publication' were split in to two distinct categories, technical and trade, and consumer. A new category was also developed for Best Wine Public Relations Campaign.

14 experienced and respected wine industry professionals have been selected to judge entries in 10 of the award categories, with four panels each assessing one or two categories each.

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 Wednesday 1 November 2017.

WCA Chairman Angus Barnes says, "This year's entries showcase the outstanding quality of work consistently being produced across the wine industry. We received more than 65 entries across all 10 categories, with impressive feedback from the judges."

The finalists for each category are:

CATEGORY	FINALISTS
Best Wine Public Relations Campaign (Individual or Team)  <b>Supported by: Wine Communicators of Australia</b>	Simon Clark – Pernod Ricard – St Hugo Cellar Door Anna Deller-Coombs – PIRSA - Great Wine Capitals – Adelaide Millie Friend – Liquid Ideas & Hardie Grant – 2018 Qantas Epicure Wine Companion Awards
Best Wine Publication (Technical & Trade)  <b>Supported by: Pernod Ricard Winemakers</b>	The Australian Wine Research Institute Technical Review - Ella Robinson Drinks Trade - Hannah Sparks Grape Grower & Winemaker Magazine - Elizabeth Bouzoudis
Best Wine Publication (Consumer)  <b>Supported by: Pernod Ricard Winemakers</b>	Explore Drinks - Hannah Sparks Halliday Magazine - Amelia Ball GT Wine - Judy Sarris
Best Wine Book (Consumer)  <b>Supported by: Calabria Family Wines</b>	Australian Wine styles and taste * people and places - Patrick Iland Halliday Wine Companion - Simon McKeown Wine Lovers Grape Guide - Paul Diamond
Best Wine Website / Wine App  <b>Supported by: Wine-Searcher</b>	eBev - Cassandra MacDonald Henschke Wines - Justine Henschke Taylors Wines - Miles Omodei
Best Digital Wine Communicator  <b>Supported by: The Drinks Association</b>	Ali Laslett Sam Odium Trish Barry
Best Featured Article or Wine Column	Daniel Honan Jeni Port



<b>Supported by: Treasury Wine Estates</b>	Morgan Dunn	 WINE COMMUNICATORS OF AUSTRALIA <small>PROFESSIONALS WORKING IN WINE</small>
Best Wine Educator	Gill Gordon-Smith Marcus Patz Philip Reedman	
<b>Supported by: Ehrenberg Bass Institute</b>		
Best New Wine Writer	Space Invader - James Brazill-Boast Music to my Mouth - Lloyd Heinrich The Art of Wine Writing - Pippa Merrett	
<b>Supported by: Gourmet Traveller Wine magazine</b>		

Angus continued to say; “The judges were delighted to see strong entries across each category, well presented and fascinating to read. This year we were unable to judge the Best Wine Book (Technical and Trade) category as there were none published that were eligible this year, however we look forward to continuing this category and receiving some great submissions next year.”

More details of each award and a precis of the finalists work can be found at:

<https://winecommunicators.com.au/awards/2017-wine-communicator-of-the-year-awards-nominees/>

Tickets for the awards night are still available and can be purchased for \$75.00 members or \$99.00 non-members from the WCA website <https://winecommunicators.com.au/event/wca-wine-communicators-of-the-year-awards-ceremony/>. The WCA Awards this year will be a barrel of laughs with Nathan and Josh from Plonk as the MC.

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