



# AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

## 2025 Awards

The CAVE Board of Directors have established an annual tradition of honoring individuals or industry friends who have made stellar accomplishments to the Colorado wine industry. The CAVE Award for Excellence recipients are selected by the CAVE Board of Directors and then honored at the annual VinCO Conference in January. In continuing with this tradition, CAVE will honor accomplishments for 2024 and the award categories will include:

- **Winery of the Year:** Presented to a winery that has advanced the widespread recognition and quality reputation of Colorado wines.
- **Grower of the Year:** Presented in recognition of the grower who has made exceptional contributions to the Colorado grape and wine industry.
- **Friend of the Colorado Wine Industry:** Presented to an individual who has made a major contribution in advancing the interests of the Colorado grape and wine industry.

## ELIGIBILITY

We are looking for outstanding individuals and/or businesses that in various ways have made major contributions in 2024 to the Colorado grape and wine industry. **The nomination period is open until November 15, 2024.** Only CAVE members are eligible to submit nominations; however, the individual, organization or winery nominated does NOT have to be a CAVE member. No self-nominations will be accepted.

## NOMINATION PROCESS

Nominations must include all information requested and include a narrative describing the reason for the nomination (no more than 250 words). The narrative needs to describe the nominee's significant performance/accomplishment/contribution and specifically why the nominee should be considered to receive the Award. Please feel free to submit any additional information you feel would support this nomination.

## SELECTION

The award winners will be chosen by the CAVE Board of Directors.

### 2012 CAVE Awards of Excellence Recipients

James Mayrose – Friend of the Colorado Wine Industry

### 2013 CAVE Awards of Excellence Recipients

Dave Tewksbury – Friend of the Colorado Wine Industry

Sylvia Sharpe – Friend of the Colorado Wine Industry  
Barb Bowman – Friend of the Colorado Wine Industry  
Debbie Kovalik – Friend of the Colorado Wine Industry

### 2014 CAVE Awards of Excellence Recipients

Kaibab Sauvage – Grower of the Year  
Infinite Monkey Theorem – Winery of the Year  
Sandie Cooper – Friend of the Colorado Wine Industry

### 2015 CAVE Awards of Excellence Recipients

Bruce Talbott – Grower of the Year  
Carlson Vineyards – Winery of the Year  
Gordon Burns – Friend of the Colorado Wine Industry

### 2020 CAVE Awards of Excellence Recipients

Keith & Diana Reed – Grower of the Year  
Carlson Vineyards – Winery of the Year  
Josh Niernberg – Friend of the Colorado Wine Industry

### 2022 CAVE Awards of Excellence Recipients

Phil Patton – Grape Grower of the Year  
Sauvage Spectrum – Winery of the Year  
Stephen Smith – Friend of the Colorado Wine Industry

### 2016 CAVE Awards of Excellence Recipients

Jay and Jennifer Christianson – Grower of the Year  
Mesa Winery – Winery of the Year  
Brenda Wray/Theo Otte – Friend of the Colorado Wine Industry

### 2017 CAVE Awards of Excellence Recipients

John Behrs – Grower of the Year  
Red Fox Cellars – Winery of the Year  
Alpine Bank – Friend of the Colorado Wine Industry

### 2018 CAVE Awards of Excellence Recipients

John Garlich – Grower of the Year  
Creekside Cellars – Winery of the Year  
Winiarski – Friend of the Colorado Wine Industry

### 2019 CAVE Awards of Excellence Recipients

Galen Wallace – Grower of the Year  
The Winery at Holy Cross Abbey – Winery of the Year  
Jenne Baldwin-Eaton – Friend of the Colorado Wine Industry

### 2021 CAVE Awards of Excellence Recipients

Bennet Price – Grower of the Year  
La Belle Vie – Winery of the Year  
Monty Haltiner – Friend of the Colorado Wine Industry

### 2023 CAVE Awards of Excellence Recipients

Dallas Black – Grape Grower of the Year  
The Storm Cellar – Winery of the Year  
Doug Caskey – Friend of the Colorado Wine Industry



# AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE NOMINATION FORM

**Winery of the Year:** \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Narrative/reason for the nomination (limit 250 words): \_\_\_\_\_

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**Grower of the Year:** \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Narrative/reason for the nomination (limit 250 words): \_\_\_\_\_

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**Friend of the Wine Industry:** \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Narrative/reason for the nomination (limit 250 words): \_\_\_\_\_

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**Nominator\*** \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\*The nominator may be contacted for information on behalf of the nominee.

**Completed nominations are due on or before November 15, 2024.**

Completed nomination forms can be returned by mail to: CAVE, PO Box 1556,  
Palisade CO 81526,  
via fax to: 970-464-0999  
or e-mail to: [cshull@coloradowinefest.com](mailto:cshull@coloradowinefest.com)

## AWARD CATEGORIES

### Winery of the Year

Winery that has advanced the widespread recognition and quality reputation of Colorado wines.

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### Grower of the Year

An individual who has contributed extensively to Colorado's grape and wine industry.

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### Friend of the Wine Industry

Individual or Organization who has made a significant contribution in advancing the interests of the Colorado Wine Industry.

Awards will be announced at the Wine Industry Awards Banquet January 22, 2025.

For additional information, please contact the CAVE office at 464-0111