



New York State Distillers Guild Celebrates the Growth and Diversity of New York Spirits with a Spirits Competition and a Tasting Event

June 12, New York, NY - Craft distilleries across New York State support and contribute to the revitalization of local agriculture and New York's inner cities. The New York State Distillers Guild (NYSDG) is celebrating this by hosting a tasting event with over a dozen craft distilleries that participated in the inaugural [New York Distilled Spirits Competition](#). The event will be held on July 17, 6:00pm-8:30pm at Brooklyn Brewery, with a press and media preview at 5:00pm.

RSVPs for the trade hour can be made [here](#), and \$25 G.A. tickets can be purchased [here](#).

Participating distillers include: Apple Country Spirits (Williamson), Black Dirt Distilling (Warwick), Heights Distilling (Brooklyn), Honeoye Falls Distilling (Honeoye Falls), Lock 1 Distilling Company (Phoenix), Lockhouse Distillery (Buffalo), Magnanini Farm Winery (Walkill), New York Distilling Company (Brooklyn), Prohibition Distillery (Roscoe), Southern Tier Distilling (Lakewood), Van Brunt Stillhouse (Brooklyn), Widow Jane Distillery (Brooklyn), and Yankee Distillers (Clifton Park).

In addition to spirits, the event will include food from Mabel's Smokehouse and live music, as well as beer from Brooklyn Brewery.

New York Distilled Spirits Competition

NYSDG partnered with Raise a Glass Foundation to produce the NY Distilled competition in concert with the The Great American International Spirits Competition, which was held in Rochester in April. NYSDG's objectives in producing the competition were to raise the profile of New York spirits through collective promotional activities, and to raise operating funds for NYSDG to continue its work on behalf of local distillers.

There was a tie for Best in Show in the New York Distilled Spirits Competition; Lockhouse Distillery's **Limited Release Barreled Gin** and Widow Jane's **Baby Jane Bourbon** share the Best in Show distinction and medal. Gold medals went to Apple Country Spirits, Barn Dog Craft Distilling, Lock 1 Distilling Co., New York Distilling Co., Southern Tier Distilling Co., and Yankee Distillers. A complete list of New York Distilled Spirits Competition medalists is below.

NY DISTILLED CATEGORY	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Rye	Yankee Distillers , Yankee Distillers Straight Rye Whiskey	Myer Farm Distillers, John Myer Rye Whiskey	Van Brunt Stillhouse, Van Brunt Stillhouse Empire Rye Whiskey
Straight Rye	New York Distilling Co., Ragtime Rye Applejack Barrel Finish	Catskill Distilling, Catskill Straight Rye Whiskey	Black Dirt Distilling Co., Black Dirt Rye
Bourbon	Widow Jane, Widow Jane 10 Year Single Barrel Bourbon	Dark Island Spirits, Dark Island Blues	Catskill Distilling, The Most Righteous Bourbon
Straight Bourbon	Southern Tier Distilling Co., Southern Tier Distilling Co. Straight Bourbon Whiskey	Myer Farm Distillers, John Myer New York Straight Bourbon Whiskey-Single Barrel	Iron Smoke, Iron Smoke Straight Bourbon Whiskey
American Craft Whiskey	Widow Jane, Widow Jane Baby Jane Bourbon	TIE: Myer Farm Distillers, John Myer New York Straight Four Grain Whiskey-Single Barrel Yankee Distillers, Yankee Distillers Straight Malt Whiskey	Widow Jane, Widow Jane Chocolate Malt Bourbon
Flavored Whiskey	Lock 1 Distilling Co., INFERNO cinnamon whiskey	Iron Smoke Distillery, Rattlesnake Rosies Apple Pie Whiskey	New York Distilling Co. Mr. Katz's
Other Flavored Spirit	Barn Dog Craft Distilling, Black Boot	Myer Farm Distillers, Myer Farm Ginger Flavored Vodka	Barn Dog Craft Distilling, Red Boot
Vodka	Lock 1 Distilling Co., RYZE Vodka	Dark Island Spirits, 1000 Vines	Harvest Spirits, Core Vodka
Gin	Lockhouse Distillery, Limited Release Barrel Gin	New York Distilling Co., Dorothy Parker	Honeoye Falls Distillery, Devil's Bathtub Gin
Brandy and Eau-de-Vie	Apple Country Spirits, 5 Year Apple Jack	Black Dirt Distilling Co, Black Dirt Single Barrel Apple Jack	KyMar Farm Distillery, KyMar Apple Brandy
Liqueur and Cordial	Lockhouse Distillery, Ibisco Bitter Liqueur	Mohawk Spirits Distillery, Strawberry Liqueur	Lockhouse Distillery, Amaro Digestif

Craft Distilling in New York State

The first known distillery in New York State dates back to 1640. By the early 20th century, New York distilleries produced gallons of whiskey, apple brandy and other spirits, in part to help preserve and capitalize on the prodigious amounts of produce being harvested across the state.

Like the rest of America, New York lost most of its craft beverage culture, including its distilleries, during prohibition, but as early as 2004, New York State saw the potential for distilling become an economic driver based on the growth of consumer interest in locally grown and produced farm-based foods and beverages. Thanks to Governor Cuomo's vision for the craft beverage industry, and through reduced red tape and the creation of small-scale and farm license classes, distilleries in New York are thriving, and with more than 150 distilleries in the state, New York State ranks among the top five craft spirit-producing states in the nation.

The craft scale of New York distilleries is big business; a 2016 study, produced by the American Craft Spirits Association in conjunction with The International Wine and Spirits Research (IWSR), reported the U.S. craft spirits market to have grown over 27% in both volume and sales between 2010 and 2015, to an estimated \$2.4 billion in retail sales.

The New York State Distillers Guild

Founded in 2014, the Guild's mission is to promote and advocate for the distilling industry in New York State through the collective voice of our members and to generate high quality, reputable and successful distilled spirits in New York State. In addition to great shaping pro-distillery legislation, and educating trade and consumers, NYSDG has supported the development of several regional spirits trails, developed nydistilled.com, and contributed to the success and growth of the Taste NY Program.

For Media & Press inquiries, please contact NYSDG Director Jenn Smith, newyorkstatedistillersguild@gmail.com; 917.714.4274

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