



GOVERNOR'S CUP AWARDS MARCH 2018



Governor Northam presents 2018 Governor's Cup to Matthieu Fino, King Family Vineyards Winemaker

2018 GOVERNOR'S CUP GOES TO KING FAMILY VINEYARDS

King Family Vineyards' 2014 Meritage joins 11 other Virginia wines to comprise the 2018 Governor's Cup Case

Governor Ralph Northam awarded the 2018 Virginia Wineries Association's (VWA) Governor's Cup to King Family Vineyards for its 2014 Meritage. This is the third time King Family Vineyards has won the Governor's Cup--in 2010 for their 2007 Meritage and in 2004 for a 2002 vintage Cabernet Franc. The Governor's Cup was awarded Tuesday evening, February 27 at the Main Street Station in Richmond, Virginia.

King Family Vineyards' 2014 Meritage is 100 percent Monticello AVA fruit and 91 percent estate fruit. The wine was aged 18 months in French oak and went through malolactic fermentation. The composition of the wine is 50 percent Merlot, 23 percent Petit Verdot, 21 percent Cabernet Franc, and 6 percent Malbec. The wine shows complexity with notes of bright red fruit, violets and dried rose petals with a youthful and focused structure.

Now in its 36th year, the Virginia Governor's Cup competition is one of the most stringent and thorough wine competitions in the country. The competition is a result of a partnership among the gubernatorial-appointed Virginia Wine Board (VWB), the Virginia Vineyards Association

(VVA), and the Virginia Wineries Association (VWA). Any wine made from 100 percent Virginia fruit was eligible for the competition.

The Governor's Cup award winner was selected from the 2018 Governor's Cup Case, a selection of the top 12 scoring red and white wines chosen from more than 440 entries from 100 wineries. The esteemed panel of judges included Jay Youmans, one of only 45 Masters of Wine (MW) in the US. The other 11 wines included in the 2018 Governor's Cup Case are:

Barboursville Vineyards 2014 Paxxito
CrossKeys Vineyards 2015 Ali d'Oro
Early Mountain Vineyards 2015 Eluvium
Jefferson Vineyards 2016 Viognier
Jefferson Vineyards 2015 Viognier
Keswick Vineyards 2016 Cabernet Franc Estate Reserve
North Gate Vineyard 2015 Petit Verdot
Potomac Point Winery 2016 Cabernet Franc
Veritas Vineyards & Winery 2015 Petit Verdot
Virginia Cellars 2015 The Barns at Hamilton Station Petit Verdot
Virginia Cellars 2015 The Barns at Hamilton Station Meritage

Both the Governor's Cup Competition and the resulting Governor's Cup Case boost the visibility of the state's highest-scoring wines through various programs and exposure to top industry critics and tastemakers. Wine included in the Governor's Cup Case will be used by the Virginia Wine Board Marketing Office for marketing purposes in Virginia, across the country, and around the world. Governor's Cup Case wines will also be used by Governor Northam on select domestic and international marketing missions and other events designed to promote Virginia's burgeoning wine and winery tourism industries.



