



# AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Awards of Excellence Program presents two awards annually:  
**Grower of the Year** and **Leader of the Year**

The California Association of Winegrape Growers (CAWG) Awards of Excellence Program is meant to spotlight exceptional people who have benefitted the broader community of winegrape growers through exemplary leadership and outstanding commitment to the well-being of the winegrowing industry, California communities and the environment.

### WHO CAN NOMINATE?

Award nominations can be made by individuals or organizations using the nomination form provided by CAWG. The identity of the nominators is not made public but will be known by the nominee and judges. The nominator can only put forward one nominee per "Award Category," annually.

### AWARD WINNERS RECEIVE

A reception will be hosted in honor of the recipients, scheduled for the evening of Tuesday, January 24th, 2023. This reception will take place during opening night of the Unified Wine and Grape Symposium in downtown Sacramento.

### JUDGING PROCEDURE

Entries will be reviewed and scored by the Cawg Board of Directors' Member Services and Communications Committee based on the criteria indicated on the nomination forms. Nominations with the highest scores will be recommended to the Cawg Board of Directors' Executive Committee for final selection. In judging nominees, the Committee will be mindful of variations among businesses in financial resources, staff capacity, regional locations, etc. Any Committee member with a conflict of interest associated with judging a nominee must abstain from judging any proposals from that round of the selection process.

### PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

#### Grower of the Year

John Kautz, John Kautz Family  
Steve McIntyre, Monterey Pacific  
The Ledbetter Family  
Andy Beckstoffer, Beckstoffer Vineyards  
Jerry and Bruce Fry, Mohr-Fry Ranches  
Brad & Randy Lange, LangeTwins  
Steve Schafer, Schafer Ranch  
Andy Hoxsey, Napa Wine Company  
The Bogle Family, Bogle Vineyards

#### Leader of the Year

Nat DiBuduo, Allied Grape Growers  
Ben Drake, Drake Enterprises  
Richard Kheen  
Volker Eisele, Volker Eisele Family Estate  
Richard Smith, Smith Family Wines  
Al Scheid, Scheid Vineyards  
Karissa Kruse, Sonoma Winegrowers  
Brad Goehring, Goehring Vineyards, Inc  
Dr. Anita Oberholster, UC, Davis

### HOW TO NOMINATE

**Submit application and supporting documents to:**

**Natalie Collins, Director of Member Relations**

**Email:** [natalie@cawg.org](mailto:natalie@cawg.org)

**Mail:** 1121 L Street, Suite 304 | Sacramento, CA 95814

For questions, please reach out to Natalie Collins at (916) 379-8995



*Nomination forms can be downloaded at  
[cawg.org](http://cawg.org)*

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2022**

# LEADER OF THE YEAR

## NOMINATION FORM



The Leader of the Year Award recognizes an individual or entity whose record of exceptional leadership and innovation has benefitted California's wine industry. By giving this award, the association seeks to recognize and promote an outstanding example of leadership for the purpose of bringing credit to the industry and inspiring others to lead.

This award is open to any individual or entity contributing to the advancement of the California winegrape industry. Nominees may be an individual, family or company. Consideration will be given only to nominations that clearly address the criteria listed on this form.

### SPONSOR INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

### NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

### Nomination Criteria

- Demonstrated an outstanding personal commitment to an issue or issues of significant importance to winegrape growers
- Has successfully and effectively represented industry interests before policymakers at the local, state or federal levels of government
- Achieved identifiable and lasting changes to promote and protect the interests of California winegrape growers
- Has proactively advocated for adoption of business, viticultural or environmental practices that have contributed to the industry's overall success

### Submission Requirement Checklist

- Completed Grower of the Year Award nomination form (this form)
- A letter or statement discussing
- A biography of the candidate not to exceed one page; a statement of contributions should be included in the biography
- (Optional)** Exhibits or materials in support of the nominee that best demonstrate the outstanding accomplishments
- (Optional)** A maximum of three letters of support by those who know the quality of the of the nominee's work or service; letters should be explicit in their recommendation and contain specific reasons for support.

### SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION

Send nomination forms and supporting documents to  
Natalie Collins

By email: [natalie@cawg.org](mailto:natalie@cawg.org)  
By mail: CAWG  
Attn: Natalie Collins  
1121 L Street, Suite 304  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Forms are available at [cawg.org](http://cawg.org)

Questions, contact Natalie Collins  
by email or phone (916) 379-8995

**Nominations are due by  
September 30, 2022**