

Town of Bernalillo
Office of the Mayor
P r e s s R e l e a s e

For More Information Contact:
Mayor Patricia A. Chávez, 505-771-7129

**AWARD WINNING WINES OF THE
2007 NEW MEXICO WINE FESTIVAL AT BERNALILLO COMPETITION**

Bernalillo, NM – August 22, 2007 – The Town of Bernalillo held its 2nd annual wine competition of the New Mexico Wine Festival at Bernalillo at the Sandia Resort and Casino on August 18, 2007. The competition was open to participating festival wineries using New Mexico grapes/fruit/honey/other in the making of their wine. Wineries will have the wine available for purchase at the festival. The wines were tasted in a blind format and evaluated on the following criteria: color/clarity, bouquet/aroma, balance/body, flavors/taste, length/finish and overall impression. Wine entries featured over ninety wines representing many New Mexico wineries.

Awarding winning wines received a judging consensus to be eligible for honors. The judges' panel was well rounded and represented wine buyers from New Mexico premium restaurants and boutiques, a fine dining executive chef, wine growers, wine enthusiasts and connoisseurs. Mayor Patricia A. Chávez will formally present awards of the top scoring wines to wineries at the festival in Bernalillo on Sunday, September 2, 2007 at 1:00 p.m.

“As one of the founding members of the New Mexico Wine Festival at Bernalillo, it is a pleasure to continue the competition this year and see it expand in the number of wineries participating”, states Mayor Patricia A. Chávez. “The Town of Bernalillo wants to recognize wineries and winemakers for a long history of winemaking in New Mexico and of New Mexico fruits. I am impressed with the professional evaluation and execution of the wine competition, and pleased with the support of the wineries. This annual competition showcases the talents of New Mexico wineries, winemakers, and grape growers. ”

The wine competition awards, beginning with the top **BEST OF FESTIVAL MEDAL**, which is granted to one wine with the overall total score without regard to varietals or category. The coveted honor goes to:

– **Santa Fe Vineyards, Zinfandel Port**

A newly introduced category award – the **JUDGES' FAVORITE** medal, goes to:

- **Arena Blanca, Chocolate Diablo 2005**

Town of Bernalillo
Office of the Mayor
P r e s s R e l e a s e

For More Information Contact:
Mayor Patricia A. Chávez, 505-771-7129

Next are the **BEST OF CLASS** medals for the excellent and outstanding wine in the following categories: Sparkling, White, Blush, Red and Other wines. Rounding off the competition are the select **GOLD AND SILVER MEDALS** representing all categories and varietals.

The award winning wines are:

BEST OF CLASS – SPARKLING WINE – St. Clair, Bellissimo NV

BEST OF CLASS – WHITE WINE – Arena Blanca, Gewurztraminer 2004

BEST OF CLASS – BLUSH WINE – Luna Rossa Winery, White Zinfandel 06

BEST OF CLASS – RED WINE – DH Lescombes, Cabernet Sauvignon 2005

BEST OF CLASS – OTHER WINES – Santa Fe Vineyards, Zinfandel Port

GOLD MEDAL WINNERS:

1. **Black Mesa, Black Beauty 5% RS**
2. **Blue Teal Vineyards, Muscat NV**
3. **Luna Rossa Winery, Shiraz 2005**
4. **Santa Fe Vineyards, Cabernet Sauvignon 2005**
5. **St. Clair, Malvasia NV**
6. **Tularosa Vineyards, White Zinfandel NV**
7. **Wines of San Juan, Merlot Blend 2004**

SILVER MEDAL WINNERS:

1. **Arena Blanca Montano Blanco NV**
2. **DH Lescombes, Brut NV**
3. **DH Lescombes, Syrah 2006**
4. **Luna Rossa, Malvasia Blianca 2006**
5. **Mademoiselle, Muscat NV**
6. **Mademoiselle, Ruby Cabernet NV**
7. **Santa Fe Vineyards, Harvest Gold 2005**

The 2007 New Mexico Wine Festival at Bernalillo will be held on Labor Day weekend, September 1-3 at Loretto Park in Bernalillo. Go to [www.\\TownofBernalillo.org](http://www.TownofBernalillo.org) for festival details and tickets.