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Contact: Lori Lefevre 212/827-6403

***FOOD & WINE* MAGAZINE PICKS BEST AMERICAN WINES FOR UNDER AND OVER \$20**

New York, NY (September 9, 2009) – *FOOD & WINE* magazine announced its picks for the best wines in America in its 12th annual American Wine Awards. Value was a big trend: The winners in the \$20-and-under category were particularly strong, and the winners in the over-\$20 category were notably inexpensive compared to last year's. The magazine editors also honored the Most Promising New Winery (Anthill Farms Winery), Winemaker of the Year (Charles Smith) and Importer of the Year (Vineyard Brands).

Winners are profiled in the October wine issue, on newsstands September 15th.

FOOD & WINE 2009 AMERICAN WINE AWARD WINNERS

**MOST PROMISING NEW WINERY
WINEMAKER OF THE YEAR
IMPORTER OF THE YEAR**

**Anthill Farms Winery, Sonoma County
Charles Smith
Vineyard Brands; Birmingham, Alabama**

BEST WINES \$20 AND UNDER

**CHARDONNAY
SAUVIGNON BLANC
PINOT GRIS/PINOT GRIGIO
PINOT NOIR
ZINFANDEL
MERLOT
CABERNET SAUVIGNON
SYRAH**

**2008 Luli (\$20)
2008 Hanna Russian River Valley (\$19)
2008 Sineann Pinot Gris (\$18)
2007 Siduri Sonoma County (\$20)
2007 Foxglove (\$15)
2006 Chateau Ste. Michelle Indian Wells (\$18)
2006 Twenty Rows (\$20)
2007 Copain Tous Ensemble (\$20)**

BEST WINES OVER \$20

**SPARKLING

SAUVIGNON BLANC
RHÔNE-STYLE WHITE

CHARDONNAY
PINOT NOIR
MERLOT
ZINFANDEL

SYRAH
CABERNET SAUVIGNON**

**2005 Domaine Carneros Brut by
Taittinger (\$26)
2007 Spottswoode (\$32)
2007 Tablas Creek Vineyard Espirit de
Beaucastel Blanc (\$40)
2006 Tandem Porter-Bass Vineyard (\$42)
2006 Peay Vineyards Scallop Shelf Estate (\$52)
2006 Pride Mountain Vineyards (\$56)
2007 Seghesio Family Vineyards Home
Ranch (\$36)
2007 Arnot-Roberts Alder Springs Vineyard (\$60)
2006 Hourglass Blueline Estate Vineyard (\$125)**

The winners will be celebrated at an event sponsored by A Diamond is Forever at the Meadowood Napa Valley on October 6.

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Food & Wine is the modern, stylish, trend-spotting, talent-seeking epicurean magazine. Published by American Express Publishing, the leader in luxury lifestyle magazines, Food & Wine has a monthly circulation of over 925,000 and is online at foodandwine.com.