

2021 Austin County Fair *Non-Commercial Wine Show*

Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021 – 1:00pm (Judging)

Public Tasting and Winemakers Meet and Greet: End of Judging until 6:00pm

Austin County Fair Grounds (American Legion Hall), 1076 East Hill St., Bellville, TX 77418

American Legion Hall located at the FM 529 Fair entrance gate

The Wine Show is coordinated by the Gulf Coast Winegrowers Association

Texas' only County Fair sanctioned non-commercial wine competition returns with the Austin County Fair on Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021. Coordinated by the Gulf Coast Winegrowers Association, the annual Austin County Fair Wine Show will be held in the American Legion Hall located on the fairgrounds near the Hwy 529 entrance gate. Closed Judging begins at 1:00pm and following the judging, the public is invited to the awards presentation and tastings of the submitted wines with the winemakers. Fair admission is free that day.

The Wine Show will accept entries from non-commercial wine makers from Austin and other Texas counties. Wines can be submitted in 10 classifications including Dry and Sweet Reds and Whites, Fruit/Berry, Dessert/Port/Sherry, Native Grape, Blush/Rose and Dry and Sweet Kit wines.

In blind tastings (other than a wines classification, a wines information is not disclosed to judges), entries will be judged by a panel of wine educators, industry professionals and other non-partial individuals. Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded to each class's winners and Grand Champion, Reserve Champion and Austin County Grand Champion belt buckles will be awarded.

Entry fees, with proceeds benefiting the Austin County Fair Scholarship program, are \$10 per wine. Entry Forms, Wine Show Rules with other entry information and deadlines are available from the Austin County office of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, 800 East Wendt St Bellville, TX 77418 (Stacie Villareal, stacie.villarreal@tamu.edu, 979-865-2072). Early Wine Show entries will be accepted from Oct. 4 – 8 between 8:30 am-Noon and 1:00-4:00pm at the following locations: The Bellville Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Office and Darst Ranch Vineyards, 981 Travis Rd, Bellville (Kenney), TX 77418 (Paul Darst, pauldarst@darstranchvineyards.com, 832-250-3568). Day of Show entries (and entry forms/rules) will be accepted at the American Legion Hall on the Austin County Fair grounds on Sunday, Oct. 17 from 10:00am – 12:30pm.

For further information, contact Paul Darst, Gulf Coast Winegrowers Association Wine Show Committee

C - 832-250-3568 pauldarst@darstranchvineyards.com

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SECTION I – GENERAL WINE SHOW RULES

1. A person may enter one or multiple entries in any of the wine Classifications. Within a class, a person may enter as many times as desired with different batches/varieties. Wine batches/varieties that are eligible to enter can be made in 2021 or earlier years but MAY NOT be repeat entries. Only non-commercial or amateur wine makers may submit entries to the Show. Judges and commercial wine producers are excluded/not eligible for entry.
2. An Entry Fee of \$10.00 is required PER ENTRY. The number of entries is unlimited. Entry Forms are available at the Wine Show for entries submitted on the day of the Wine Show from 10:00am until Noon. Checks are to be made out to ACFA. Credit Cards will only be accepted through the Austin County Fair office (Kim Quinney, 979-865-5995).
3. Each wine entered MUST be submitted in a minimum of two 750ML bottles (or approximate U.S. equivalent measure - 1 quart).
4. Each bottle must be labeled with the participants name, grape variety or fruit, vintage/year and the Classification to be entered.
5. **ENTRY SUBMITTAL LOCATIONS AND DEADLINES:**
EARLY ENTRIES will be accepted from Oct. 4 - 8 between 8:30 am-Noon and 1:00 - 4:00pm at the following locations:
 - Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, 800 East Wendt St Bellville, TX 77418 (Stacie Villareal, 979-865-2072, stacie.villarreal@tamu.edu)
 - Darst Ranch Vineyards, 981 Travis Rd, Bellville, TX 77418 (Paul Darst, 832-250-3568, pauldarst@darstranchvineyards.com)**DAY OF SHOW ENTRIES** will be received on the day of the Show (Sunday, Oct. 17) at the American Legion Hall on the Fair Grounds between 10:00am and 12:30pm. The American Legion Hall is located near the HWY 529 Fair Entrance Gate.
NOTE: Fair admission tickets are not required on the day of the Wine Show (Oct. 17).
6. If an entry has been mis-classified, the judges have the prerogative to place it in the proper classification.
7. Judging begins promptly at 1:00pm. Once judging begins, no one is allowed in the judging area except personnel authorized by Wine Show Officials.
8. Competent and non-partial judges will be provided. Judges will be divided into two panels, Red and White.
9. This is a blind tasting.
10. Each Classification will have winners in each category unless there is only one entry in a classification. In the case of a single entry in a classification, the entry will be judged and must receive a minimum number of points to qualify for an award. As a guideline:
 - Range of points for GOLD – 22 – 25
 - Range of points for SILVER – 18 – 21
 - Range of Points for BRONZE – 13 -17
11. First, second and third places in each class will be awarded medals (Gold, Silver and Bronze) accordingly. If there is a tie, both get the medal.
12. CHAMPION and RESERVE CHAMPION BELT BUCKLES: The top 4 highest gold medal scored wines from both Judges panels will be tasted by all judges to determine the overall GRAND CHAMPION and RESERVE CHAMPION belt buckle winners (all score qualified wines are eligible) and the top 2 highest scores of Austin County made wines from both Judges panels (excluding Kit Wine entries) are tasted by all judges to award the GRAND CHAMPION Austin County Fair belt buckle.
13. After judging is completed, both entrants and the public will be invited for the awards ceremony and a tasting of submitted wines. Entrants may choose to stand by their entries and serve their wine to the public for limited tasting.
14. All entries should be picked up by the entrant or their designee at the conclusion of the tasting. Failure to pick up the entry will result in the sample becoming the property of the Gulf Coast Winegrowers Committee and the Austin County Fair Board.

SECTION II – WINE CLASSIFICATIONS

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| 1. Red Wine – Dry | 6 – Dessert / Port / Sherry Style |
| 2. Red Wine – Sweet | 7 – Kit Wine / Non-Texas Grapes – Dry |
| 3. White Wine – Dry | 8 – Kit Wine – Non-Texas Grapes – Sweet |
| 4. White Wine – Sweet | 9 – Native/Mustang/Muscadine Grape |
| 5. Fruit / Berry | 10 – Blush |

