

## **WSCV Wine Professional Grant Program Overview**

The Wineries of Santa Clara Valley (WSCV), desiring to support aspiring wine educators and wine stewards from Santa Clara County, have established a fund to provide grants to be used by qualified applicants seeking to further their credentials and advance in their chosen field. Through this grant program the WSCV seeks to support the education component of their mission statement and encourage upcoming wine professionals to learn about the tradition and quality of wines from this historic region.

- Eligibility requirements:
  - Applicants must be at least 21 years of age and a reside within the Santa Clara Valley (County)
  - Applicants must possess, at a minimum, the basic level credentials from a wine professional certification program
    - Court of Master Sommeliers – Level 1
    - Society of Wine Educators - Certified Specialist of Wine (CSW)
    - Wine and Spirits Education Trust – Level 2
    - Or the equivalent from other bona fide wine education organizations subject to the approval of the Wine Professional Grant committee.
  - Applicants must provide proof of current employment within the wine industry. This employment may be part-time or through self-employment. There is no minimum number of hours but preference will be given to those candidates who are most actively involved in pursuing a career in the wine industry. Proof of employment may be through payroll records, professional references, or clip-sheets/downloads of published materials
  - Applicants must be scheduled for, or have completed their upper-level certification test within 6 months of the date of application
  
- Application process:
  - Complete the application packet
    - Fill out the attached application form
    - Include your Resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV)
    - Write a brief letter explaining your interest in wine, how you intend to pursue that interest, and why you should be considered for this grant
  - Submit the Application Packet via eMail or postal mail
    - [secretary@santaclarawines.com](mailto:secretary@santaclarawines.com)
    - Wineries of Santa Clara Valley, PO Box 562, San Martin, CA 95046
  
- Grant award process:
  - To receive the grant money, the applicant must:
    - Be selected by the Wine Professional Grant Committee
    - Make a presentation to the Board of Directors of the WSCV. A topic for presentation can be chosen from the list on the application, or by the applicant with the approval of the committee.
    - Pass the certification test
  - Once these requirements are met the grant will be paid directly to the applicant.
  - Grants will reimburse the cost of the certification test not including transportation, food, or lodging, up to a maximum of \$500 per grant

**Application Form**

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

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

eMail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Certification Test: \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost of Exam: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Exam: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Employer (Wine): \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Hours per Month: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a current Resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV).

I certify that all information contained in this application packet is accurate to the best of my knowledge, and agree that any presentation material I create as part of this Grant award process may be republished by the WSCV for educational purposes.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **WSCV Wine Professional Grant Program**

The WSCV will publish your presentation on our website. Note that your presentation should be of professional quality, and any reference materials used or quoted should be appropriately cited (see, for example, <http://www.bibme.org/citation-guide/chicago/>).

#### **Presentation Topic List**

##### ***Historical:***

- Origins, geographical distribution, or overall impressions of wine grape growing in Santa Clara Valley 1850 – 1980
- Overview of the wine industry of Santa Clara Valley 1850 – 1990
- Notable or fundamental figures of the wine industry of Santa Clara Valley

##### ***Current:***

- Survey of vineyards and varietals of the Santa Clara Valley
- Advantages and disadvantages of winegrowing in the Santa Clara Valley
- Survey of Santa Clara Valley wine producers and notable wines
- Evolution of the wine industry of Santa Clara Valley 1970 – present

##### **Possible Sources:**

- Charles L. Sullivan (1982). *Like Modern Edens: Winegrowing in Santa Clara Valley and Santa Cruz Mountains 1798 – 1981*
- Charles L. Sullivan (1998). [\*A Companion to California Wine: An Encyclopedia of Wine and Winemaking from the Mission Period to the Present\*](#). Oakland, CA: University of California Press. ISBN 978-0520213517.
- Google has proven valuable for sourcing old articles from newspapers that have long ago ceased to exist, but clever search wording may be necessary. Google has also proven valuable for sourcing old books (dates from 1870 onwards) containing information about Santa Clara area winegrowing.
- Interviews with local winery owners can be helpful.
- Anecdotal sourcing may be used but is not appropriate as the main source of information on your presentation.