



ASTI  
D.O.C.G.

# MOSCATO D'ASTI INCOMING TRIP

August 29<sup>th</sup> - September 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Participant BIOs**





# AMANDA SPARACINO

Chicago, IL

## Work Experience

- Sommelier at Del Frisco's Restaurant Group
- Vice President & Co Owner of the Bang Bang Band, INC (Current Position)
- Music & Wine Pairing at The Crushed Lush ([www.crushedlush.com](http://www.crushedlush.com))
- Wine Team, Food and Beverage Service at Vera
- FOH Management, Food & Beverage Service at Fat Willys Ribs
- Management and Wine Consultant at Lush Wine and Spirits

## Education

- Missouri State University
  - Degree: English & Creative Writing

## Award & Accomplishments

- Guild Sommelier Champagne Masterclass
- Guild Sommelier Deductive Tasting
- Guild Sommelier Loire Masterclass
- Guild Sommelier Rhône Masterclass
- Court of Master Sommeliers
  - Certified Sommelier
- WSET 1 & 2
- Guild of Sommeliers

## Social Media

- Facebook: Crushedlush
- Instagram: Crushed\_Lush
- Twitter: @crushedlush

## Contact Information

- (773) 655-4433
- [pinkdirt4@gmail.com](mailto:pinkdirt4@gmail.com)



# WANDA ROWE

Miami, FL

## Work Experience

- Editor/Publisher of Southern Beverage Journal/Beverage Media Group

## Social Media

- Facebook: Wanda.Rowe.31

## Contact Information

- (305) 281-7957
- [wrowe@bevmedia.com](mailto:wrowe@bevmedia.com)



# CURTIS DYER

Dallas, TX

## Work Experience

- Wine Director at Bob's Steak and Chop House

## Contact Information

- (214) 608-0674
- [c.dyer@bobs-steakandchop.com](mailto:c.dyer@bobs-steakandchop.com)



# CATHRINE TODD

New York, NY

## Work Experience

- Contributing Writer at Vivino
- Contributing Writer at Snooth Media
- Member of Circle of Wine Writers
- Wine Columnist at La Voce di New York
- Freelance Wine Writer, Content Creator and Wine Blogger at Dame Wine® ([www.damewine.com](http://www.damewine.com))
- Event Seminar Speaker at IEEM International Event & Exhibition Management
- Wine Consultant & Web Content at Sherry-Lehmann Wines & Spirits, Inc
- Wine Consultant for Wine Distribution in Manhattan w/ Empire Merchants & Smaller Boutique Companies

## Education

- International Wine Center - WSET Diploma
  - Degree: Diploma Level 4 (Received Intermediate and Advanced certifications in 2007, and the Diploma in 2010.
- Society of Wine Educators
  - Degree: Certified Specialist of Wine
- The Spanish Wine Academy

## Award & Accomplishments

- Finalist: Best Overall Wine Blog 2016
- Finalist: Best Writing On a Wine Blog 2016
- 2016 Top 20 Wine Influencers: Who to Follow on Social Media?
- Top 100 Most Influential Wine Blogs of 2015
- Shortlisted for EMERGING WINE WRITER OF THE YEAR 2015
- Finalist: Best New Wine Blog 2015 Certified Sommelier

## Social Media

- Facebook: Cathrine.Todd
- Instagram: damewine
- Twitter: @damewine

## Contact Information

- (917) 885-3292
- [damewine@damewine.com](mailto:damewine@damewine.com)



# GREGORY AIKEN

Los Angeles, CA

## Work Experience

- Assistant General Manager and Wine Director at Mastro's Ocean Club Restaurants (Current Position)
- Dining Room Manager at Charlie Palmer Group
- Outlets Manager at Hyatt Regency Newport
- Sales Representative at Southern Wine & Spirits

## Education

- Chapman University, The George L. Argyros School of Business and Economics
  - Degree: Bachelor of Science Field of Study Business Administration and Marketing

## Social Media

- Facebook: Gregory.Aiken.14

## Contact Information

- (714) 334-8409
- [GAiken@ldry.com](mailto:GAiken@ldry.com)



# JEFFREY MAYFIELD

Philadelphia, PA

## Work Experience

- Wine director at Del Frisco's Restaurant Group (Current Position)
- Head Sommelier/Beverage Director at Lacroix

## Social Media

- Twitter: @WineLifeJeffrey

## Contact Information

- (972) 974-6309
- [Jeffreymayfield.1@gmail.com](mailto:Jeffreymayfield.1@gmail.com)





# KEITH HANSEN

San Francisco, CA

## Work Experience

- Beverage Manager/Wine Director at IHG - InterContinental Hotels Group (Current Position)
  - Intercontinental SF/Luce
- Wine Director at Metro Restaurant

## Award & Accomplishments

- Court of Master Sommeliers – Certified Sommelier
  - Advanced Sommelier Certification in progress
- Cicerone Certified Beer Server

## Social Media

- Facebook: Keith.Hansen.104

## Contact Information

- (916) 710-3613
- [Keith.Hansen@ihg.com](mailto:Keith.Hansen@ihg.com)



# KEVIN LANCTOT

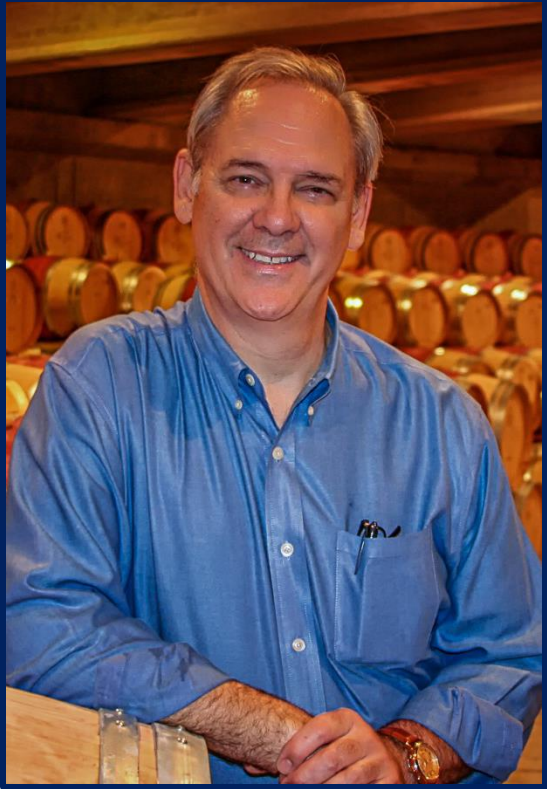
Los Angeles, CA

## Work Experience

- Wine Director at Michael's on Naples Ristorante

## Contact Information

- (714) 307-4200
- [Kevinl@michaelsrg.com](mailto:Kevinl@michaelsrg.com)



# LYN FARMER

Miami, FL

## Work Experience

- Columnist at Miami Indulge Magazine
- Instructor at Fine Vintage, LLC (Current Position)
  - Lead instructor for the Wine & Spirit Education Trust, the most highly regarded educators in the wine industry. Courses include WSET Levels 1, 2 and 3.
- Director at VeritageMiami
  - VeritageMiami is an annual wine event that has raised more than \$12 million for United Way of Miami-Dade and its partner charities.
- On Air Host at WPBT2 South Florida Public Media
- Wine and Spirits Ambassador at Silversea Cruises
- Senior Editor at The Wine News

- Champagne and Port Ambassador at Center for Wine Origins
- Festival Director at Miami Wine and Food Festival
- Director, Entertainment and Special Events at Regent Seven Seas Cruises
- Restaurant Critic at South Florida Sun Sentinel
- Program Manager, Operations Director at WTMI-FM
- Restaurant Critic at The Miami Herald

## Education

- University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
  - Degree: BA Field of Study International Communication, Music History, Journalism & Field of Study International Communications, Journalism

## Award & Accomplishments

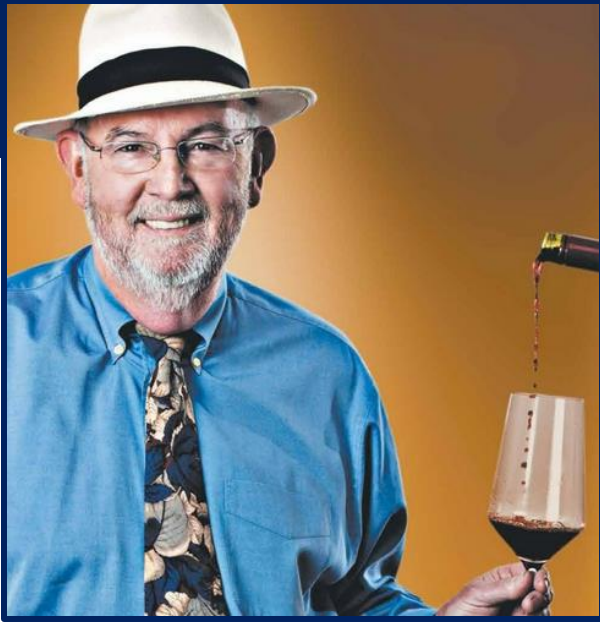
- WSET Advanced Certification

## Social Media

- Facebook: Lyn.Farmer
- Instagram: Lyn\_wine
- Twitter: @FizzFan

## Contact Information

- (305) 968-7976
- [tastings@gmail.com](mailto:tastings@gmail.com)



# PATRICK "CHIP" CASSIDY

Miami, FL

## Work Experience

- Wine and beverage instructor at the Chaplin School of Hospitality & Tourism Management of Florida International University (Current Position)
  - Courses Taught: "Wines of the New World", "Wine Technology, Merchandising, and Marketing", and "The Business of Wine"
  - Developed a Wine Certificate Program
- Wine Buyer at Crown Liquors of Broward, Inc
- Wine Buyer and Consultant at Foremost Sunset Corners
- Head sommelier at Breakers Hotel

## Education

- Florida International University
  - Degree: B.S. in Hotel and Restaurant Management

## Award & Accomplishments

- Chapter Director of Les Amis du Vin "Friends of Wine"
- Author of: *Chip Cassidy's Wine Travels* and *Chip Cassidy's Further Wine Travels*
- Professional wine judge at: International Wine Review, Atlanta Wine Festival, Sonoma County Fair, West Coast Championships, Grand Harvest Awards, San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition, Eastern International Wine Competition, Indiana State Fair, Vin Italy, and American Fine Wine Competition
- Awards:
  - University Teaching Excellence Award, FIU Medallion for University Service, University Top Scholar, President Council Worlds Ahead Award Winner, and University Faculty Excellence in Service Award at FIU
  - Grand Award, Society of Wine Educators
  - #1 Wine Educator in U.S., Italian Wine Trade Bureau
  - Retailer of the Year, Monterrey Wine Festival
  - Retailer of the Year, Beverage Dynamics Magazine
  - Retailer of the Year, Market Watch
  - European Ambassador Award

## Contact Information

- (305) 970-4885
- [CaymusC@aol.com](mailto:CaymusC@aol.com)





# SYLVIE GERVAIS

Miami, FL

## Work Experience

- Wine Director & Sommelier at Mizner Country Club (Current Position)
- Wine Consultant and Founder of Unfiltered Wine Consulting
- Wine Judge for Best in Glass Challenge at VeritageMiami
- Wine Judge AFWC at American Fine Wine Competition
- Instructor at International Sommelier Guild
- Wine Consultant at Bispo's Cellar

## Education

- Wine & Spirit Education Trust, London (WSET)
  - Degree: Diploma (DWS) Field of Study Wine & Spirits
- Court of Master Sommeliers - Certified Sommelier
- Cuisine Professionnelle, QC Canada
  - Degree: Diplome de Cuisine Professionnelle Field of Study Culinary Arts

## Award & Accomplishments

- Sommelier, Auction & Vintner Wine Dinner at Naples Winter Wine Festival
- Certifications:
  - Avanced Ambassador of the Academy of Wines of Portugal at ViniPortugal
  - Certified Specialist of Wine (CWS) at Society of Wine Educators
  - Wine Certificate Level 1 & 2 at International Sommelier Guild
- Organizations:
  - Institute of Wines & Spirits, London
  - Guild of Sommeliers, Napa
  - Society of Wine Educators, DC

## Social Media

- Facebook: Sylvie.Gervais.35
- Instagram: Sylviegervais
- Twitter: @SylvieGervais

## Contact Information

- (954) 868-5745
- [sylvie@unfilteredwine.com](mailto:sylvie@unfilteredwine.com)

# TARIK BOUSLAMA

Orlando, FL



## Work Experience

- Sommelier at Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts - Orlando, FL (Current Position)
  - Managing an award-winning wine program of the prestigious Wine Enthusiast America's 100 Best Wine Restaurants of 2016.
  - Responsible for ordering, receiving, inventory, organizing and selling wine for all departments.
- Food and beverage manager at Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts - Saint Louis, Missouri
- Sous Chef at L'Abri-Côtier
- Head Bartender at Levy Restaurants

## Education

- Hospitality college bounvaine Marseille France
  - Degree: Hospitality Administration/Management
- Institut Spécialisé de technologie Appliquée Hôtelière et Touristique de Mohammedia (ISTAHT)

## Award & Accomplishments

- The Court of Master Sommeliers – Certified Sommelier
- Organization - The Guild of Master Sommeliers

## Social Media

- Facebook: Terricksafeman
- Instagram: btarik1114
- Twitter: @btarik1114

## Contact Information

- (305) 333-6912
- [tarik.bouslama@fourseasons.com](mailto:tarik.bouslama@fourseasons.com)



# THOMAS HYLAND

Chicago, IL

## Work Experience

- President at North Shore Wine Education
- Freelance wine writer, educator, and photographer, specializing in wines of Italy
  - Featured Publications: Decanter, Sommelier Journal and Quarterly Review of Wines.
  - Online Journals: [thylandviews.blogspot.com](http://thylandviews.blogspot.com), and [learnitalianwines.wordpress.com](http://learnitalianwines.wordpress.com)
- Conduct wine educational seminars on Italian wines for the trade

## Education

- Loyola University of Chicago
  - Degree: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Field of Study Political Science

## Award & Accomplishments

- Author of the following books: "Beyond Barolo and Brunello", "The Wines and Foods of Piemonte" and "The Essence of Champagne: In the Glass and at the Table"

## Social Media

- Facebook: Tom.Hyland.338
- Twitter: @vinotom

## Contact Information

- (312) 667-4504
- [thwinewriter@comcast.net](mailto:thwinewriter@comcast.net)



# TINA SILVERBERG

Boston, MA

## Work Experience

- Corporate Sommelier & Senior Beverage Operations Specialist at Legal Sea Foods

## Education

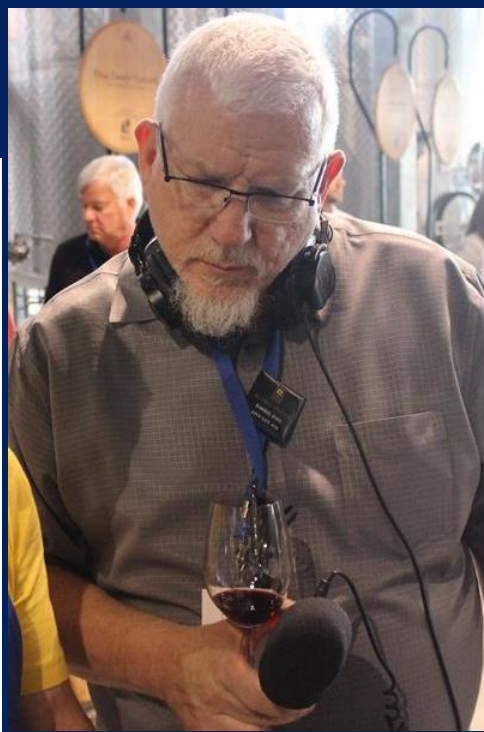
- Boston University - School of Management
  - Degree: Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Marketing

## Social Media

- Facebook: Tina.Silverberg.1
- Instagram: TinaSilverberg

## Contact Information

- (617) 894-6107
- [tsilverberg@legalseafoods.com](mailto:tsilverberg@legalseafoods.com)



# RAY FISTER

Milwaukee, WI

## Work Experience

- President at Life Between the Vines - [lifebetweenthevines.com](http://lifebetweenthevines.com) (Current Position)
  - Audio podcast blog featuring people in the wine industry
- President at 5th Floor Recording Co.
- Audio Engineer at Milwaukee Sound Studios

## Education

- Lakeland Community College
  - Degree: Journalism/Photography

## Social Media

- Facebook: Ray.Fister/Life-Between-the-Vines-158382563415
- YouTube: [lifebetweenthevines](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8)
- Twitter: @RayFister

## Contact Information

- (414) 276-1919
- [ray@lifebetweenthevines.com](mailto:ray@lifebetweenthevines.com)





# TONYA PITTS

San Francisco, CA

## Work Experience

- Sommelier/Wine Director at One Market Restaurant/Lark Creek Restaurant Group (Current Position)
- Sommelier & Event Planner at Mistral Restaurant & Bar
- Wine Director at Bizou Restaurant

## Education

- Court of Master Sommeliers - Certification
- Saint Louis University

## Award & Accomplishments

- Featured in Wine & Spirits Magazine, Tasting Panel, etc.
- Judge at San Francisco International Wine Competition
- Tasting panelist for Wine and Spirits Magazine

## Social Media

- Facebook: Tonya.Pitts.562
- Twitter: @noirsommelier

## Contact Information

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