



## **BLUE CELLARS WINS GOLD MEDAL HONORS AT THE 2006 SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL WINE COMPETITION**

*Blue Cellars 2003 Syrah was among a select few to receive a gold medal*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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San Francisco, Calif. – Blue Cellars 2003 Carneros Napa Valley Truchard Vineyard Syrah came away with a coveted gold medal at the 2006 San Francisco International Wine Competition held June 23-25 at the Hotel Nikko in downtown San Francisco.

Considered by many in the industry to be one of the biggest and most prestigious wine judging competitions in the United States with 19 countries represented and over 1,000 wineries participating, the young winery was among only 26 wines to receive such a distinction in the Syrah/Shiraz category. In all, there were 322 entries in the category.

“It’s nice to get recognition for the quality of wines that Blue Cellars is producing so early in the history of our company,” said winemaker and partner Jeff Ritchey.

Ritchey serves as chief vintner for Blue Cellars whose first vintage occurred in 2003. Ritchey’s impressive resume also includes winemaking for San Saba Vineyards, Sensorium and Picchetti Winery. He was also featured in April’s Food and Wine Magazine moonlighting winemakers article.

“Our dedication is to making the absolute best wines possible,” said general partner Jeff Brock. “I just wish that more people would have a chance to experience this very limited, exceptionally great wine.”

In addition to its award-winning Syrah, Blue Cellars also produces a 2003 Petite Syrah Port which has also received accolades. It was chosen as a Food and Wine Magazine staff issue favorite and was paired with actress Jeri Ryan’s blueberry-raspberry tart in its July 2006 issue. Ryan, who has appeared in such shows as Star Trek Voyager and Boston Public, is engaged to renown chef Christophe Emé’ whose current endeavor is Ortolan restaurant in Los Angeles.

**For more information about Blue Cellars:** please visit [www.bluecellars.com](http://www.bluecellars.com) or call 800-992-BLUE or e-mail [info@bluecellars.com](mailto:info@bluecellars.com).

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