

# A Sneak Peek at this year's **American Fine Wine Competition**

**T**he 13<sup>th</sup> annual American Fine Wine Competition (AFWC) and “Sipping Through America” event is right around the corner.

The AFWC judging will be Jan. 19-20th at FIU’s Chaplin School in North Miami. Thirty-two judges will determine best of class and best of show winners over the weekend by tasting over 850 wines from several states, including California, New York, Washington, Oregon, Ohio, Virginia and Colorado.

The Sipping Through America event, open to the public, takes place right after the first day’s judging on Jan. 19. In addition to the hundreds of bottles that will be open for the competition, over 20 wineries will pour even more of their best wines. Local restaurants, including The Blue, Ortanique, Cvltvra, Mimmo’s Mozzarella and Cooper’s Hawk, will serve specialty dishes.

“Nowhere can one taste so many incredible world-class wines – not at an event, not a day in wine country, not a tasting – nowhere but here,” says Shari Gherman, co-founder of the AFWC. “It’s a true celebration with amazing wine and food, music and terrific people for a great cause.”

— *Peg San Felippo*

*Peg San Felippo is a certified sommelier who has served as a judge on the annual American Fine Wine Competition, South Florida’s homegrown wine event; and THE Rosé Competition.*

## **IF YOU GO**

“Sipping through America,” featuring food, music and hundreds of wines, 6:30-9 p.m. Jan. 19 at The Wine Spectator Restaurant inside FIU’s Chaplin School of Hospitality, 3000 NE 151 St., North Miami. The cost is \$95 per person, which benefits The Chip Cassidy Endowment Fund. For more information go to [americanfinewinecompetition.com](http://americanfinewinecompetition.com); or check out their Facebook page, [facebook.com/AmericanFineWineCompetition/](https://facebook.com/AmericanFineWineCompetition/).

