



OC FAIR  
**COMMERCIAL**  
WINE COMPETITION



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 10, 2023**

**Orange County, California**

**Orange County Wine Society (OCWS) announces its event calendar for the 2023 OC Fair - Wine Courtyard.**

OCWS has been hosting wine tasting and wine education at the OC Fair for over four decades in conjunction with the OC Fair Commercial Wine Competition, the largest competition of California only wines in the world. OCWS volunteers serve award-winning wines for tasting and varietal wines by the glass during the run of the OC Fair, from 11 AM to 10 PM, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday, and 11 AM – 11 PM Friday and Saturday. Wines range from a refreshing Chardonnay, Sparkling, or Rose to a heavy Cabernet Sauvignon or Zinfandel. In addition, the Express Wine Bar in the Courtyard will be open each evening from 5 – 9 PM for concert goers.

Besides just serving wine, OCWS serves up wine education in the form of Wine Seminars and the Featured Winery Program.

Wine Seminars are held every Saturday and Sunday of the OC Fair at 1 and 3 PM. The cost is only \$25 for wine focused seminars and \$30 for wine and food pairing seminars. The seminars include helpful wine information from OCWS experts, tastings of award-winning wines, and snacks or food pairings to complement the wines.

### **2023 Wine Seminar Schedule:**

Sat, Jul 22

1 PM – Syrah vs. Petite Sirah – Can you Tell the Difference? (Carolyn Christian)

3 PM – OC Fair Competition Gold Medal Winners (Bill Redding)

Sun, Jul 23

1 PM – Summer Whites (Kevin Coy)

3 PM – Fun & Easy Food & Wine Pairings (Ed Reyes)

Sat, Jul 29

1 PM – The Latest Trends in Wine (Carolyn Christian)

3 PM - Cheese & Wine Pairing (Carol Frank)

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Sun, Jul 30

- 1 PM – Mediterranean Wars: Spanish vs. Italian Varietals (Ken Knapp & Sam Puzzo)
- 3 PM – Fair Food & Wine Pairing (Ed Reyes & Sara Yeoman)

Sat, Aug 5

- 1 PM – Sparkling & Sweets (Fran Gitsham & Linda Flemins)
- 3 PM – Snack Food & Wine Pairings (Ken & Cheryl Knapp)

Sun, Aug 6

- 1 PM – Unique Uses for Wine (Fran Gitsham & Linda Flemins)
- 3 PM – Fair Food & Wine Pairing (Ed Reyes & Sara Yeoman)

Sat, Aug 12

- 1 PM – Wine & BBQ Food – What a Pair! (Carolyn Christian)
- 3 PM - OC Fair Competition Gold Medal Winners (Bill Redding)

Sun, Aug 13

- 1 PM – Unusual Wine Varietals (Ken Knapp)
- 3 PM - Cheese & Wine Pairing (Carol Frank)

The Featured Winery Program showcases award-winning wineries from the OC Fair Commercial Wine Competition. Winery owners and winemakers join us from 3 – 7 PM every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday during the fair to speak to the public and serve their award-winning wines.

**2023 Featured Winery Program Schedule**

- Fri, Jul 14 – Vinos Unidos (Bob Jaurequi)
- Sat, Jul 15 – Dark Star Cellars (Michael Cox)
- Sun, Jul 16 - Double Bond Winery (John Klacking)
- Fri, Jul 21 – Bella Grace Vineyards (Jess Havill)
- Sat, Jul 22 – Wild Eye (Mike & Kirsten Berntsen)
- Sun, Jul 23 – LePoidevin Cellars (Ryan Pedvin)
- Fri, Jul 28 – Lucid Wine (Kevin Luther)
- Sat, Jul 29 – Ortega Wines (Jesus Ortega Jr)
- Sun, Jul 30 – Seven Angels Cellars (Greg & Pamela Martin)
- Fri, Aug 4 – Fallbrook Winery (Carrie & Kevin McCracken)
- Sat, Aug 5 – Dubost Winery (Zack Raines)
- Sun, Aug 6 - San Simeon Wines (Marty Spate)
- Fri, Aug 11 – Macchia (Tyler Holdener)
- Sat, Aug 12 – Urban Press Winery (Heather Clifford)
- Sun, Aug 13 – Once & Future Wines (Joel Peterson)

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Regardless of your wine knowledge level and preferred wine style, the Wine Courtyard at the OC Fair has something for every wine lover! Come join us at this year's [OC Fair](#) "Happy Together" which runs from July 14<sup>th</sup> through August 13<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday through Sunday.

OCWS is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that boasts over 1,000 wine enthusiast members who volunteer their time to host the OC Fair Commercial and Home Wine Competitions and the Wine Courtyard at the OC Fair. The organization also runs [WineCompetition.com](http://WineCompetition.com), a list of the competition's award winners and direct links to the wineries. As part of its mission, OCWS also raises funds for college scholarships at eight California institutions with wine-related educational programs and has donated over \$780,000 to date.

An electronic version of the Wine Courtyard schedule is available [here](#). For more details on OCWS, contact Fran Gitsham, President at [fran@ocws.org](mailto:fran@ocws.org).

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