



## 2017 SavorNW Wine Awards Judges

### **Eric Degerman**

Eric Degerman is president and CEO of Great Northwest Wine. He co-founded Wine Press Northwest, becoming a food writer and wine judge, and has contributed to Vineyard & Winery Management magazine. He has judged at many competitions including the SavorNW Wine Awards, the San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition, Pacific Rim International Wine Competition, Northwest Wine Summit, Idaho Wine Competition, British Columbia Wine Awards and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo International Wine Competition.

### **Ellen Landis**

Published wine writer, certified sommelier and wine consultant, Ellen Landis is former sommelier of the Half Moon Bay Ritz Carlton and was Wine Director and Sommelier at Landis Shores Oceanfront Inn for 20 years, which she co-owned with husband and chef Ken Landis. She is also a renowned international wine judge whose experience includes the San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition, The West Coast Wine Competition, the Mid-American Wine Competition and the Long Beach Grand Cru International Wine Competition.

### **April Reddout**

April Reddout is the Wine Program Manager at the Walter Clore Wine & Culinary Center. She procures wines from all over Washington and oversees the wine education programs offered at the center. April is a regular judge for Great Northwest Wine and writes a wine column for the Prosser Record-Bulletin.

### **Ken Robertson**

Ken Robertson has been sipping and writing about Northwest wines since he moved to Kennewick, Washington, in 1976. He retired as editor of the Tri-City Herald, where he was among a group of editors and writers who helped found Wine Press Northwest magazine in 1998. He remains a contributing editor and writer on the magazine and serves on its tasting panel. He has judged at several Northwest wine competitions including the SavorNW Wine Awards, Wine Press Northwest's annual Platinum Judging, the Northwest Wine Summit and the Idaho Wine Competition.

### **Steven Sinkler**

Level 3 Sommelier and owner of The Wine Shack and Provisions 124 in Cannon Beach, Steven Sinkler's Puffin Brand Wines have garnered multiple awards through the years. His wine judging experience extends not only to prior years with SavorNW, but also competitions that include the Great Northwest Wine Competition and the Great Northwest Invitational Wine Competition.

**Jean Yates**

Jean Yates was the owner of Avalon Wine for 26 years. Now the president of Oregon Wine Marketing, Jean works with wineries to develop marketing strategies to increase wine sales. She has judged at the SavorNW Wine Awards, Cascadia Wine Competition and the Great Northwest Invitational Wine Competition.

**Julia Crowley**

A 20-year veteran of the wine industry, Julia Crowley is the namesake behind the award-winning website [therealwinejulia.com](http://therealwinejulia.com). As Food and Wine Editor for Eugene Daily News, she has authored two popular columns: Wine Down Eugene and Local Lunch Gals. Julia has also written for Snooth.com and occasionally writes wine-related articles for a southern lifestyle magazine named CLICK.

**Katelyn Peil**

Named Sommelier of the Year at the 2017 Washington State Wine Awards, Katelyn Peil is beverage director for Seattle-based Heavy Restaurant Group and manages the wine programs at several area restaurants. In addition to the Savor NW Wine Awards, Katelyn has also judged for the Great Northwest Invitational Wine Competition.

**Viki Eierdam**

Viki Eierdam is the former author of the Forks & Corks blog for The Columbian and has also written for Oregon Wine Press, Wine Press Northwest and Northwest Travel Magazine, among others. Viki is the creator of Savor Sip & Sojourn, a wine, food, travel and business site.

**Hank and Nancy Sauer, Facilitators**

Hank and Nancy Sauer have facilitated some of the largest wine competitions in the Northwest, including the Great Northwest Wine Competition, the Walla Walla Valley Wine Competition, the Wine Press Northwest Platinum Judging, the Great Northwest Invitational Wine Competition and the Northwest Wine Summit. Both are retired educators who have participated with the SavorNW Wine Awards since inception.