



SAN FRANCISCO WORLD
SPIRITS COMPETITION

2017 JUDGES

ANTHONY DIAS BLUE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

President, Blue Lifestyle; Editor-in-Chief, *The Tasting Panel Magazine*, *The SOMM Journal*, *The Clever Root*

TONY ABOU-GANIM DIRECTOR OF JUDGING

Master Mixologist, The Modern Mixologist

ERIK ADKINS

Beverage Director
Slanted Door Group

BRIDGET ALBERT

National Director of Education Beam Suntory
Southern Wine & Spirits

STEPHEN BEAL

Spirits Educator and Consultant,
Keeper of the Quaich

KENT BEARDEN, CSS

Sr. Director of Operations
Saint Marc USA

MITCH BECHARD

Glenfiddich Brand Ambassador
William Grant & Sons

JULIO BERMEJO

Tequila Master / Spirits Buyer
Tommy's Mexican Restaurant

MARK BOWERY

Wine and Spirits Consultant
Mark Bowery Consulting

JOSEPH BROOKE

Southwest Market Manager
The 86 Co.

JACKSON CANNON

Bar Director, Eastern Standard; Co-owner and Bar
Director, The Hawthorne

KATHY CASEY

Owner
Kathy Casey Food Studios – Liquid Kitchen

JERRY COOPER

SmartDrink consulting

DALE DEGROFF

President
King Cocktail Co.

TONY DEVENCENZI

Northern California Mixology Ambassador
Diageo North America

H. JOSEPH EHRMANN

Proprietor
Elixir / Cocktail Ambassadors, LLC

SCOTT ELLIS

U.S. Western Regional Manager
Compass Box

ZIGGY ESCHLIMAN

The Wine Gal and Countess of Cocktails
Wine Country Radio

DOUG FROST, MS & MW

Wine Consultant and Writer

DAVID GRAPSHI

Owner
Agave Forte

GARY GRUVER

Beverage Manager, Global Operations
Marriott International

KIM HAASARUD

Founder
Liquid Architecture

RICHARD CARLETON HACKER

Master of the Quaich; Senior Spirits Editor,
The Robb Report; Contributing Editor, *The Tasting
Panel* and *The SOMM Journal*

STEVEN IZZO

Beverage Director
Waterbar

CHARLES JOLY

Founder
Crafthouse Cocktails

FRANCESCO LAFRANCONI

Exec. Dir. Mixology and Spirits Education
Southern Wine & Spirits of Nevada

DREW LEVINSON

Vice President, Business Development
Breakthru Beverage Group

SEAN LUDFORD

Director
BevX.com

DAVID MAHONEY

Wine and Spirits Writer
Esquire, *The History Channel Magazine*,
The Tasting Panel, *The SOMM Journal*,
The Clever Root

TIM MCDONALD

President
Wine Spoken Here

FRED MINNICK

Wine and Spirits Journalist, Author
Whiskey Women, Bourbon Curious

JEFFREY MORGENTHALER

Bar Manager, Clyde Common;
Founder, *RepealDay.org*

MATT MYERS

Director of Food and Beverage
Bellagio By MGM Shanghai

ROBERT PLOTKIN

Author, Trade Writer, Beverage Consultant
BarMedia

JULIE REINER

Co-owner / Mixologist
Flatiron Lounge & Clover Club

JACK ROBERTIELLO

Writer and Consultant
Drinks Ink

JIM ROMDALL

NW Brand Manager
Novo Fogo Cachaça

MAX SOLANO

Beverage Program Specialist and Spirits Educator
Southern Wine & Spirits of Nevada

AMANDA VICTORIA

Communications Director – USA
The Scotch Malt Whisky Society

KEVIN M. VOGT, MS

Vice President / Partner
Wine Country Connection

CHARLOTTE VOISEY

Director, Brand Advocacy
William Grant & Sons

DAVID WONDRIK

Spirits Writer
Esquire Magazine