

Sacramento scores in Best California Wine List Competition

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Sorry about the lack of posts on this end. I've been in Boston for the past week, and a quick tip of the glass to Troquet's wine bar, which is located across the street from Boston Common. Troquet's by-the-glass program rocked - we're talking a list that includes Krug, d' Yquem and plenty of other great selections on its list.

Speaking of wine lists, just found out that Sacramento just about dunked on the competition in the second annual Best California Wine List Competition, co-sponsored by the California Restaurant Association and the Wine Institute.

The Firehouse Restaurant won first place in the category for companies with less than 10 locations and annual revenue of \$1 million or more.

The Melting Pot, which includes a franchise in Sacramento, nabbed top honors in the category for restaurant companies with 10 or more outlets.

California Café in Los Gatos won for restaurant companies with less than 10 locations and annual revenue of less than \$1 million.

Could Sacramento's dominance in the competition be due to the judging panel? Such locals as Darrell Corti, Joe Vacarro from Ella Dining Room & Bar, and former Sacramento Bee food editor Mike Dunne were all part of the panel. Either way, the judges were looking for wine programs with a commitment to showcasing California wines. Competitors were also required to submit an essay to detail more about their wine program.

Congrats to the winners, especially those from the River City.