

NSW wines featured at WineFest 07

Kenvale College of Tourism and Hospitality Management teamed with 12 NSW wineries and Department of State and Regional Development to promote the diversity and excellence of the State's wines at its annual **WineFest**, held on Monday evening, **28 May 2007 at the NSW Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney**. A number of distinguished people from the industry and the media attended the event, which was organised and conducted by Kenvale students.



Kenvale College, a non-profit, education and training provider in tourism, hospitality and event management, conducts **WineFest** as part of the academic program of first-year Bachelor of Commerce in Services Marketing-Tourism and Hospitality Management students at the University of NSW. The students work in small teams with individual wineries to plan and mount the exhibition and to conduct guided tastings for invited attendees.

For the first time this year, **WineFest** featured NSW wineries exclusively. Wineries from the Hunter, Riverina, Orange, Mudgee and Bathurst regions actively supported the student project and offered wines for sampling at **WineFest**.

The event was sponsored by DSRD, working with the NSW wine industry to increase trade and consumer awareness of the quality and diversity of the NSW wines. Other platinum sponsors included the NSW Restaurant & Catering Association, Tourism Training Australia, and Tourism, Hospitality and Catering Institute of Australia.

The guest speaker at **WineFest** this year was **The Hon Ian Macdonald, MLC**, NSW Minister



for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources and Minister for State Development. He commended the NSW wineries supporting the event. He said, *"Not only are you imparting valuable knowledge and practical skills to the Kenvale students, you are also raising awareness about the NSW wine "proposition" – its quality, its range of varieties and styles, its regional diversity, its commitment to excellence and innovation."*



The NSW Wine Industry Association was represented by Angus Barnes, its National Business Manager, who spoke a few encouraging and inspiring words to the young talents and future professionals in this industry.

Ms Isabella Conde, Principal of Kenvale College of Tourism and Hospitality Management, in her Vote of Thanks, acknowledged the NSW government and wine industry for *"for their encouragement and vision in working with us, educators, in one unique event that benefits all involved"*.

Simon Marnie, Weekend Presenter of 702 ABC Sydney, added spark to the evening with his wit and naturalness, which made the formal proceedings warm and entertaining.

The **WineFest** judges this year included Anthony Roberts, General Manager, Wine Group of Lion Nathan, Rob Geddes MW, WineStream Media Relations and Marketing Services, and Nick Farr-Jones, 1991 Captain of the Wallabies.

The students were judged based on wine product knowledge and wine marketing stall presentation. The winners were Drayton's Family Wines, *Hunter Valley* (first prize) and Cumulus Wines, *Orange* (second prize). Overall, Mr Geddes recognised that with the calibre of exhibition displays, presentation and knowledge of wines the judges witnessed that evening, everyone was a winner!



Kenvale College extends its sincere gratitude to the participating wineries and food sponsors, who made this year's **WineFest** another success!