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MEDIA RELEASE

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New prize for Australia's best Pinot Noir

A new incentive for Australian winemakers of Pinot Noir has boosted the prize pool at the Royal Queensland Wine Awards (RQWA) to almost \$20,000.

The recipient of the Dr Bill Ryan Best Pinot Noir of Show trophy will now also receive a \$5,000 prize to be used for wine or travel.

It has been introduced by Andrew and Michael Ryan, as part of the award that honours their late father who had been involved with the RQWA for more than two decades, serving almost 15 of those years as Chair of the competition.

Bill was also a leading Queensland orthopaedic surgeon and co-founder of winery Summit Estate on the Granite Belt. He had a love for Pinot Noir, making regular visits to its homeland of Burgundy in east-central France.

Andrew and Michael Ryan said their family was pleased to now provide a \$5,000 prize to the winner of the Dr Bill Ryan Best Pinot Noir of Show trophy.

"As the creator behind Ryan's Daughter (Summit Estate's award-winning Pinot Noir), our father was passionate about not only wine but wine education," they said.

"It gave him true enjoyment to be able to see people appreciate wine at every level.

"I know our father will be honoured to be remembered and represented by this trophy and the furthering of the winner's wine education."

The competition also offers a \$12,000 fellowship for the wine judged Australia's best, with the funds to be used by the winemaker for education, travel and training.

The RQWA is the first capital city wine show held in Australia each year and the first to judge the new season's vintage.

Entries for the RQWA must be in by Friday 2 June, with judging taking place from Monday 3 July and the winners to be announced on Friday 14 July.

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

Veronica Carew
General Manager Communications
Ph: 07 3253 3930 / 0408 323 631
Email: vcarew@rna.org.au

Nicole Clifton
Media & Communications Officer
Ph: 07 3253 3931 / 0417 451 775
Email: nclifton@rna.org.au