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**San Diego Urban Winery Awarded Double Gold in International Wine Competition**  
*2013 Patient Terrier Vineyard Pinot Noir from LJ Crafted Wines is only Pinot Noir to achieve this award*

San Diego, Calif. (April 20, 2017)- LJ Crafted Wines announced today that they received a double gold award for their 2013 Patient Terrier Vineyard Pinot Noir at the fifth largest international wine competition in the world, the Finger Lakes International Wine Competition, that took place March 24-26<sup>th</sup> of this year in Rochester, NY.

LJ Crafted Wines Pinot Noir was the only Pinot Noir to receive double gold in this competition. A double gold is awarded when there is unanimous consent from the judges.

Though the bulk of LJ Crafted Wines business is in filling growlers direct from the barrel via their patent pending Wine Steward apparatus, the 2013 Pinot Noir holds a special place in their history because half of the production was destroyed in the 2014 Napa earthquake.

“We are very proud that one of our favorite pinots with a heartbreaking story has achieved such impressive recognition,” said Lowell Jooste, owner of LJ Crafted Wines. “This Pinot Noir was particularly popular with our customers when we served it directly from the barrel, so we are fortunate to still have a limited number in bottles.”

Tasting notes of the 2013 Patient Terrier Vineyard Pinot Noir include: Dark roses, wild cherry, spice, and clove on the nose with a silkily-textured, gentle palate.

“Pinot Noir has a well established historical European tradition, with expectations for its aroma and taste firmly established. In California, the vineyard site is the most important consideration for attaining beautiful Pinot Noir. No amount of winemaking expertise can overcome incorrect soil and climate,” said Alison Green-Doran, winemaker for LJ Crafted Wines. “Russian River Valley in Sonoma County is one of the few areas that can produce consistently lovely Pinots, and the Patient Terrier Vineyard in particular, has just the right site to nurture graceful balanced Pinot Noir. The winemaker can sit back and let the grape express itself, supporting but not interfering with its evolution. With this 2013

Pinot, the heartbreak came with it crashing to the floor in the earthquake of August, 2014.”

The 2013 Patient Terrier Pinot Noir is in limited supply and is available on line at <http://www.ljcraftedwines.com/shop> or at the tasting room in La Jolla for \$39.00. Wine club members receive 20% off. This Pinot Noir is no longer available directly from the barrel with the growler program.

For more information about LJ Crafted Wines, please visit: [www.ljcraftedwines.com](http://www.ljcraftedwines.com).

### **About LJ Crafted Wines**

LJ Crafted Wines is a family owned and operated award-winning urban winery located in the beautiful coastal town of Bird Rock in La Jolla, California. Owners Lowell and Anne Jooste crafted the concepts for their business from their experience of managing family-owned Klein Constantia and Anwilka vineyards, which they shared with two eminent French winemakers. Lowell is fourth generation in a family dedicated to the wine business and developed deep roots in the international wine scene during his 20+ year career in South Africa. LJ Crafted Wines has created a one-of-a-kind experience in wine. Limited release wines are made in Yountville, Napa from grapes bought from premiere vineyards in Napa & Sonoma, transported in their original barrels to the tasting room and served to customers directly via Lowell's innovative patent pending apparatus. Aptly named the “Wine Steward,” it allows wine to be served from the barrel in which it is aging, while maintaining the integrity of the remaining wine. This novel system combines perfectly with the use of the refillable, eco-friendly growler, allowing customers to select re-fills from a dozen barrels of wine across a wide taste spectrum. In the first year of business, LJ Crafted Wines won three gold medals, two silver medals and scored 93 points from two different reviewers on their 2015 Pinot Noir from Patient Terrier vineyard in Russian River Valley, California, all reviewed from growlers. The custom designed tasting room is located two blocks from the ocean, has indoor and outdoor seating, and offers small seasonal gourmet plates and cheese boards. Well-informed wine associates lead guests through the regularly changing wine list. Club memberships are available. For more information, please visit <http://www.ljcraftedwines.com>

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