

For Immediate Release
11 March 2004

WGS Awards of Excellence 2004
MEDIA RELEASE

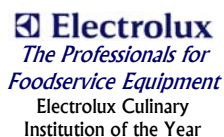
Presenting Partner of
World Gourmet Summit 2004



World Gourmet Summit Awards of Excellence 2004

Recognising the best

Awards of Excellence Partners



The World Gourmet Summit (WGS) proudly presented by **American Express**® is pleased to announce the finalists of the Awards of Excellence 2004. Organised by Peter Knipp Holdings Pte Ltd and supported by the Singapore Tourism Board, this event serves to recognize and pay homage to the professionals and talents who have excelled and contributed to the food and beverage industry.

Inspired by the Michelin in France and the James Beard in America, the Awards of Excellence, now in its fourth year, continues in its true spirit - to honour the very best in the food and beverage industry in Singapore and the region, through their distinction in providing world class dining experiences.

Awards

For 2004, 16 awards will be bestowed upon the best from the industry. These comprise of:

- Sanpellegrino *Chef of the Year*
- *Executive Chef of the Year* presented by Tabasco
- Meat & Livestock Australia *Rising Chef of the Year*
- Inniskillin *Icewine Pastry Chef of the Year*
- Heinz *Asian Ethnic Chef of the Year*
- Convotherm *Restaurant of the Year*
- Martell Cognac *Asian Ethnic Restaurant of the Year*
- Christofle *New Restaurant of the Year*
- WMF *Restaurant Manager of the Year*
- Chivas Regal *Food & Beverage Manager of the Year*
- Schott Zwiesel *Sommelier of the Year*
- *Wine List of the Year*
- UBF Foodsolutions *Lifetime Achievement Award*
- Electrolux *Culinary Institution of the Year*
- at-sunrice The Singapore Cooking School and Spice Garden *Asian Cuisine Article of the Year*
- *Wine Article of the Year*

More than 90 professionals were short-listed for the 15 awards. Through a stringent nomination process by 250 independent jury members, the highest scoring finalists for each award proceeded onto the next stage. The top finalists were further evaluated by 50 selected jurors and results for the awards are verified by an appointed auditor, Robert Tan & Co..

Organised by:



Supported by:



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Awards of Excellence Partners



Le Cordon Bleu
Culinary Scholarship

TORRES



Bodegas Torres Wine
Scholarship

**N K & Melina
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Media Conference



Gastronomie Française
A Product of Barry Callebaut
Cacao Barry
Patisserie Scholarship



AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE
Scholarship Partner



THE RITZ-CARLTON®
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Official Venue Host for
Awards of Excellence
Presentation & Opening
Reception

Scholarships

In line with recognizing the best in the industry, 3 coveted scholarships will be awarded to young, aspiring food and beverage talents who possess the potential to grow in the culinary profession. The organiser in partnership with Temasek Polytechnic, opened the scholarships to all individuals working in the food and beverage industry in Singapore between the ages of 18 and 26. As part of the scholarship, air travel, accommodation and fees are all inclusive.

- Le Cordon Bleu Culinary Scholarship

The winning candidate will have the opportunity to attend a culinary course at the venerable Le Cordon Bleu, either in Australia or Europe. The course will include product origins, cooking techniques, food presentation and theory of food.

- Cacao Barry Patisserie Scholarship

The scholar will partake in a patisserie apprenticeship at Cacao Barry E'Cole in France and be attached to the distinguished Culinary Institute Alain & Marie LeNotre, France.

- Bodegas Torres Wine Scholarship

The winning candidate will spend time at the renowned Bodegas Torres winery in Spain to learn about the intricacies of wine making. The all encompassing programme will cover topics such as viticulture, yeast study, wine making, quality control, sensorial analysis and aging in oak barrels.

"The scholarships serve to inspire and encourage younger talents in the industry to develop their passion and to scale new heights" said Mr. Peter A. Knipp, co-organiser of the event.

"We are certain this community project will serve as an additional platform to nurture our young professionals, who will one day contribute in making Singapore a world-class gastronomic city", he added.

A total of 43 budding professionals applied for the scholarships. Through a stringent written test, the highest scoring 6 applicants moved onto a *new* evaluation programme, launched this year. The culinary and patisserie candidates had to undergo a "live" food preparation and grueling cooking practical tests at Temasek Polytechnic, under the strict observation of Singapore's leading chefs, while the wine scholarship participants underwent a blind tasting session and service assessment. Together the culinary, patisserie and wine candidates served entire 3-course meals with wine pairings, to notable gourmets, food critics and wine specialists.

Results for the scholarships and much-anticipated winners for the 16 awards and 3 scholarships will be announced on 19 April 2004 at The Ritz-Carlton, Millenia Singapore, at the WGS Awards of Excellence 2004 Presentation.

The World Gourmet Summit 2004 is proudly presented by American Express® and is jointly organised by the Singapore Tourism Board (STB) and Peter Knipp Holdings (PKH). WGS is an exclusive platform that showcases the vibrancy of Singapore's epicurean culture and lifestyle. The WGS highlights the concept of gastro-tourism, positioning Singapore as a world class culinary destination.

For details on the Awards of Excellence, please visit www.wgsawards.com

For details on event activities, please visit www.worldgourmetsummit.com

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