



SOMMFOUNDATION TREASURY WINE ESTATES ADVANCED EXAM SCHOLARSHIP FOR CANADIANS

SommFoundation congratulates Ian Wharton, recipient of the 2020 Treasury Wine Estates Advanced Exam Scholarship for Canadians. Ian was awarded \$1350 (USD) to assist with the costs of the Court of Master Sommeliers Advanced Exam. This scholarship is sponsored by Treasury Wine Estates through their Canadian distributor, Mark Anthony Wine & Spirits.

Ian Wharton developed a love and appreciation for wine working at Social Restaurant in Ottawa, Ontario, while earning his bachelor's degree in architecture from Carleton University. His foundational knowledge stems from his first wine course (WSET Level II) which he completed in 2007. He continues to pursue higher certifications through both the WSET and the Court of Master Sommeliers and passed the CMS Advanced Exam in March of 2020. He currently works as the assistant wine director at Elisa Steakhouse in Vancouver, B.C. When he is not studying wine, he enjoys sailing and kayaking.

As part of Treasury Wine Estates' vision to become the world's most celebrated wine company, they are committed to supporting sommelier education and professional development. From Penfolds and Wynns Coonawarra Estate in Australia to Stags' Leap, Beringer and Beaulieu Vineyard in Napa Valley, the character, quality and scale of the Treasury Wine Estates global brand portfolio is unmatched. They are constantly improving and enhancing their wineries and vineyards in a sustainable manner.

Established in 1972, the Mark Anthony Group is one of North America's most diversified and successful private alcohol beverage companies and a family-owned business with tremendous pride in being 100% Canadian. Mark Anthony Wine & Spirits is the premier fine wine and spirits distributor in Canada with a proven track record of building brands for carefully selected partners from around the world.

The mission of SommFoundation (The Guild of Sommeliers Education Foundation) is to assist wine and spirits professionals to achieve the highest level of proficiency and accreditation in the food and beverage industry. SommFoundation provides enrichment opportunities and scholarships to sommeliers, restaurant professionals, wine journalists, and winemakers to further their knowledge about the world of wine and spirits.

SommFoundation seeks to increase diversity and inclusion within the beverage industry. We pledge our solidarity with other communities of People of Color, LGBTQ+ and all other under-represented, disenfranchised identities seeking an equitable, peaceable society.

SommFoundation was created to assist people with their efforts in beverage education and to provide increased opportunities in that arena. We believe education is a part of the antidote for injustice and inequality, and we remain committed to including people from all walks of life in

SommFoundation educational opportunities. SommFoundation seeks to work with all leaders and members of the beverage community to make our industry just and fair.

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