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Solis Winery Merlot Wins Golden State Glory

June 18, 2015 (Gilroy, CA): Solis Winery's estate vineyard in Gilroy has produced numerous award-winning wines, but the winery recently took home its biggest trophy ever when its 2011 Estate Merlot recently won Best of California and the Double Gold Award, at the 2015 California State Fair Commercial Wine Competition.

The California State Fair Wine Competition is the oldest in the state, with a history dating back to 1855, and is one of the few competitions that focuses solely on wines produced in California. This year there were 2,829 entries from 746 different winery brands from all wine-growing regions throughout the state. The wines are judged by panels of respected winemakers, wine merchants, writers, promoters, and educators.

Vic Vanni, co-owner of Solis Winery, said, "This is the most prestigious award we've ever won, and it's especially amazing since Merlot is one of the most prevalent varieties in the state. We were up against a huge pool of competitors and are thrilled to have come out on top."

Vanni says he remembers that the year 2011 was an unseasonably cool summer, which required some managerial changes to improve the crop. "It's a tricky business, because Mother Nature continues to throw curve balls at you," he explained. "This award is testament to the reality that small lot wines and well-controlled vineyards under the close supervision of the winemaker and viticulturalist (who happen to be the same person for us) lead to a better, more intimate product."

Solis Winery's award-winning wines are available locally. Guests are encouraged to sample them by visiting the winery's tasting room, located at 3920 Hecker Pass in Gilroy. To learn more, visit www.soliswinery.com.

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About Solis Winery

Solis Winery lies in the heart of Santa Clara Valley's rich wine-growing region. Originally planted by Italian immigrants in the 1920s, the vineyard changed hands in 1980 when the Vanni family purchased the land. Since then, the Vannis have continued to marry tradition with modern technology and art with innovation to produce award-winning wines.

www.visitgilroy.com