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EVENT RECAP

The Periwinkle Foundation Crowns Evan Turner as the 2020 Iron Sommelier Champion *Iron Sommelier Presented by AutoSol® is Houston's premier sommelier competition and wine tasting event*

WHAT: **The Periwinkle Foundation's Iron Sommelier 2020**, presented by AUTOSOL

WHEN: Thursday, November 12, 2020

WHERE: Individual Ticket Holders: Live via Zoom
Underwriters: Backstreet Café and Hugo's

DETAILS: On November 12, Houston's finest sommeliers were put to the test for the title of *Iron Sommelier* in the city's premier wine competition and fundraiser benefiting The Periwinkle Foundation. Each competing sommelier selected two wines which focused on a particular wine region, grape or style, and a panel of judges rated wine choice, presentation, creativity, and knowledge of their wine selections.

As an effort to provide a safe and socially-distanced competition, The Periwinkle Foundation offered both virtual and in-person opportunities for guests to experience. Individual Ticket holders were provided with a tasting flight of 12 wines to enjoy at home and had access to the virtual Iron Sommelier judging presentation and live presentations from competing sommeliers and guest winemakers. Underwriters had the opportunity to see live presentations and interactive conversation with the sommeliers in small private venues, or they could choose to enjoy the event from the comforts of home. All guests had access to an exciting wine pull, auction, raffle, and Children's Art sales.

Sommeliers competing in the 2020 competition included: **Farrah Cauley** – Sonoma Wine Bar, **Adele Corrigan** – 13 celsius Wine Bar, **Matt Crawford** – State of Grace, **Julie Dalton** – Mastro's Steakhouse, **Eric Estefano** – Pappas Bros Steakhouse, **Marcus Gausepohl** – Brennan's, **Whitney Seng** – The Coronado Club, **Lindsay Thomas** – River Oaks Country Club, **Emily Tolbert** – Savoir, **Evan Turner** – Krasi Meze & Wine, **Justin Vann** – Public Services Bar and Theodore Rex, and **Jeffrey Young** – Georgia James.

The competing sommeliers were judged by: Craig Collins, MS, Antonio Gianola and June Rodil, MS.

At the end of the evening, Evan Turner, Krasi Meze & Wine, took home the title of Iron Sommelier 2020 with his “Meet and Greek: Rare Grapes of Greece” theme. Other awards included:

1st runner up – Justin Vann, Nancy’s Hustle and Theodore Rex

2nd runner up – Julie Dalton, Mastro’s

Best Presentation – Evan Turner, Krasi Meze & Wine

People’s Choice – Evan Turner, Krasi Meze & Wine

GUESTS: Colin LaFavers, Randa and KC Weiner, John and Anne Clutterbuck, Paulina and Jim McGrath, Jenifer and Scott Jarriel

PHOTO CREDIT: Eric Forsythe

ABOUT: The Periwinkle Foundation develops and provides programs that positively change the lives of children, young adults and families who are challenged by cancer and other life threatening illnesses and are cared for at Texas Children’s Hospital. Funds raised through Iron Sommelier help support the Periwinkle Camps, Arts and Survivor Programs that serve more than 14,000 children, teens and families. This is made possible by a collaborative community of 20,000 supporters with a reach of more than 12 million impressions worldwide.

For more information, visit www.ironsoommelier.org or www.periwinklefoundation.org.

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