

KENTUCKY WINE DOCUMENTARY EARNS NATIONAL HONORS

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FRANKFORT, Ky. — A documentary about Kentucky's growing wine industry has won three national awards for excellence.

"Vintage Kentucky: The Vine to Wine Experience" was honored by the 31st annual Telly Awards with two Silver Telly awards, the organization's highest award, in the Cultural and History/Biography categories and a Bronze Telly in the Travel/Tourism category. The Telly Awards honor the best local, regional and cable television commercials and programs, video and film productions, and work created for the Web.

"This documentary very effectively told the story of our wine industry's rich history and its bright future," Agriculture Commissioner Richie Farmer. "These awards will bring new attention to Kentucky's outstanding wines and some of the talented, hard-working people who produce them."

A judging panel of 350 accomplished industry professionals, each a past winner of a Silver Telly and a member of the Silver Telly Council, judged more than 13,000 entries from all 50 states and around the world. Fewer than 10 percent of entries are chosen for the Silver Telly.

"Vintage Kentucky: The Vine to Wine Experience," a project of the Kentucky Grape and Wine Council and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, is a 30-minute documentary that tells the story of Kentucky's wine industry from its status as a national leader in the 1800s to its demise as a result of Prohibition to its current re-emergence. The documentary was co-produced by New West LLC of Louisville.

KET, which first aired the documentary in November 2009, has added more showings to its upcoming schedule. "Vintage Kentucky: The Vine to Wine Experience" may be purchased on DVD.