

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2009**

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Cypress Bend Vineyards wins two “Best in” categories at the 2009 N.C. State Fair Wine Competition

WAGRAM—The 10th Annual N.C. State Fair Wine Competition, held October 7-8 in Raleigh, had 416 wines submitted by 51 N.C. wineries. Cypress Bend Vineyards took the N.C. Muscadine Cup for best Muscadine wine for its “Campbell” which also won the Best Red Native American entry.

Three panels of professional judges evaluated wines and awarded 26 double gold, 39 gold, 58 silver, and 122 bronze medals. Double gold medals are awarded for unanimous decisions from the judges. Competitions were open only to N.C. winemakers, and commercial entries had to be submitted by bonded N.C. wineries. The state is home to 89 commercial wineries and several more are expected to open within the next year.

Cypress Bend, having opened its doors only four short years ago has won over 70 medals and quickly cast its presence on a field often dominated by such established wineries as Childress, Shelton, Biltmore and Duplin. “We started out with a commitment to make the very best wine from North Carolina’s native muscadine grape,” said proprietor Tina Smith. “We have already been recognized as having cultivated and bottled the very driest white muscadine with our Christina’s Magnolia, being recognized in this competition for our red even further validates the unique quality of our wines.”

In addition to the double gold honors won by its Campbell wine, the vineyard also walked away with medals for five other wines:

- Cypress Bend Vineyards McNeill (Gold)
- Cypress Bend Vineyards Holly Berry Red (Silver)
- Cypress Bend Vineyards Riverton Reserve (Silver)
- Cypress Bend Vineyards Autumn (Bronze)
- Cypress Bend Vineyards Roseneath (Bronze)

For Smith, the vineyard is a labor of love and respect of family heritage. The land, which Cypress Bend Vineyards calls home is steeped in rich history, passed down through the generations since 1807 – the latest of which is her husband, Dan, who was raised on the property. After leaving home to pursue a career, The Smith’s returned to the beautiful farm land, known as “Riverton,” with an interest in celebrating the land that was central to the family. Hence, all of the wines carry a piece of the family with them. For example, Campbell is a reference to Catherine Campbell, and early matriarch of the family.

Cypress Bend Vineyards is located at 21904 Riverton Rd in Wagram, NC. In addition to the 35 acres of vines, the vineyard features a tasting room and a “veranda” - a sprawling patio with casual market umbrella-topped tables where guest congregate with friends or simply drench themselves in the Scotland County sunshine. The veranda is also a favorite venue for Jazzy Fridays, which features live jazz every other week, and other special events throughout the year. The vineyard is open seven days a week for tastings and tours and is available for weddings and special events. www.cypressbendvineyards.com. (910) 369-0411.