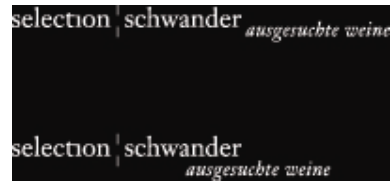




THE INSTITUTE OF  
MASTERS of WINE



## **The Institute of Masters of Wine® announces the *Selection Schwander Scholarship***

*London – 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2009:*

The Institute of Masters of Wine is delighted to announce the Selection Schwander Scholarship. This annual award, which will be available from 2009, is for students whose first language is not English and who are entering their second year of study. The award will contribute to the winner's study, translation and examination costs up to a value of £ 3,000.

The Selection Schwander Scholarship will be awarded to a Master of Wine student who performs exceptionally well in the First Year Assessment and whose first language is not English. This assessment takes place the year before the Master of Wine examination and is an interim test of students' ability to communicate their wine knowledge and tasting ability.

The Scholarship is open to Master of Wine students from around the globe and reflects the desire of the Institute of Masters of Wine to be accessible to students of all nationalities.

***Clive Barlow MW, Acting Executive Director of the Institute***, said, "We are very grateful to Philipp for his generosity and vision of assisting students whose first language is not English. This scholarship rewards the student who shows the greatest promise and helps him or her offset the financial burden of the translation costs. Furthermore, it promotes the growth and internationalisation of the Institute."

***Philipp Schwander MW***, said, "The translation costs for exams could be prohibitively high for some students and it would be a pity if a gifted candidate were unable to take the exam as a result. During my preparation for the Master of Wine exam I received tremendous support from MWs and I am very happy that I can now help international MW students and contribute my share of support."

### **About the Institute of Masters of Wine**

The Institute of Masters of Wine was established in London, England, in 1953, since when over 2000 candidates have sat its rigorous examination in the art and science of wine. In 1991, the examination was held on the same days in the UK, Australia and the USA, a pattern that continues today.

There are currently 276 members of the Institute, from 25 different countries. Although membership was opened up to non-UK members for the first time only in 1987, 85 members now come from outside the UK. The vast majority of the students are now non-British, and the Education programme is run annually in Napa Valley, California; Melbourne, Australia; Rust, Austria; and Bordeaux, France.

The Master of Wine qualification is achieved by passing three parts of the examination:

- **Theory**, comprising four three-hour question papers on viticulture, winemaking, the business of wine and contemporary issues
- **Practical**, comprising three 12-wine blind tastings of a range of international wines which are assessed for variety, origin, quality and style
- a 10,000 word **Dissertation** on a subject selected by the candidate, relevant to the international wine industry

Candidates come from all areas of the wine industry. The majority are active in a commercial capacity, as wholesalers, importers or retailers, from major multi-nationals to independent merchants. A growing number are involved directly with winemaking, while other occupations include journalism, public relations, the hospitality industry and wine education.

### **Enquiries:**

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