

Sandro Bottega honored with 2018 Riedel Winemaker of the Year Award

By **Jas Ryat** on May, 1 2018 | Spirits & Tobacco



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Winemaker of the Year Award

Sandro Bottega, owner and Managing Director of Italian winery and distillery Bottega, has received the 2018 Riedel Winemaker of the Year Award.

The award is presented annually to a person of distinction for outstanding achievement and contribution to the wine-making industry.

Sandro Bottega received the award from The Cambridge Food & Wine Society, on behalf of Riedel, the prestigious Austrian glass manufacturer.

The ceremony, held on April 30 at historical Biagio Ristorante, Toronto, was attended by Canadian authorities and European consuls, the Riedel family, Shauneen E. Bruder, Honorary Consul General of Luxembourg in Toronto, and Leo Chan, President of the Cambridge Food & Wine Society.

The Cambridge Awards of Excellence Series is presented annually to 15 people and organizations of distinction in recognition of outstanding service to the community, and are judged to best exemplify the spirit of Cambridge professionalism.

The Riedel Winemaker of the Year Award was granted to Sandro Bottega for "having enchanted wine and gastronomic art lovers since 1977, in over 120 countries worldwide, with his artistic skills, the entrepreneurial ability and energy, and the quality and genuineness of the products".

Bottega said: "I feel deeply honored and grateful, and I dedicate this prestigious recognition to my parents and to the whole company who have worked with creativity, passion and humbleness to produce wines, grappa and liqueurs, always in compliance with the corporate values: Quality (Italian taste and authenticity), Design (expression of the excellent aesthetic character of being made in Italy) and Social Responsibility towards the environment and the community."

The award has been given to great names in the wine world, such as Robert Mondavi, USA (2005), Karl Kaiser and Donald Ziraldo, Canada (2006), Lamberto Marchesi de Frescobaldi, Italy (2007), Léon Beyer, France (2008), João Nicolau de Almedia, Portugal (2009), and Miguel Torres, Spain (2014).

The Cambridge Food and Wine Society of Canada was co-founded by Professor Chef Leo Chan and Professor Gian Paolo (J.P.) Michelini in 1988.

The Friends of Cambridge meet regularly for gourmet food and wine tasting and other educational activities. In addition to conducting seminars, cooking demonstrations, food and wine tours, the society provides annual scholarship funds to accomplished students.