

Press announcement: The Nick Tarayan Bursary Trip 2009

Applications invited for 12 free places on the Nick Tarayan Bursary course – a four day trip to Champagne and Burgundy in April 2009. www.nicktarayan.com

Winners are to be chosen through an essay competition which is open to all front-of-house staff (under 40 and currently working in the on-trade) who have a passion for wine. This competition creates a fabulous opportunity to win a unique, free educational trip next April.

The four day trip will include private visits to the leading Champagne Houses of G. H. Mumm, Pommery and Taittinger, as well as top Burgundy producers Louis Jadot, Domaines des Lambrays, Louis Latour, Chateau de Puligny and Remoissenet.

The top student on the course, someone full of enthusiasm and a desire to become a wine professional, will win the major prize of the Nick Tarayan Bursary. This bursary aims to help launch a career by placing the winner on a Wine and Spirit Education Trust course followed by a placement in a prestigious restaurant.

Entrants are asked to submit a 500 word essay entitled “My passion for wine” on one of the three following subjects: 1. Burgundy 2. Champagne 3. Pinot Noir & Chardonnay, together with their CV (including Date of birth, Address, Tel / Mobile number & Email).

Closing date for entries is Saturday 10th January 2009, and the winners will be announced at the AGM of The Champagne Academy at The Vintners Hall on the 2nd February.

Many of you know that two years ago Nick Tarayan was struck down by a serious illness. In September 2008 a fundraising event for Nick was held at The Middle Temple Hall. There were two objectives: firstly to help the Fairlie House Hospice, where Nick is cared for, and secondly to raise money for the educational trip and the top student prize. These Bursary activities, in Nick’s name, are dedicated to the continuation of his legacy by creating opportunities that will encourage the next generation of talented sommeliers.

The Champagne Academy, which Nick was set to Chair in 2006, has supported the fundraising. Those of you working with the press who met Nick will know something of his charm and many achievements and in particular his overriding goal to bring passion for wine and food into everyone’s life and encourage the young, talented and less advantaged to explore a career in this exciting industry.

He was always there to help a good cause and we do ask you now to help us publicise this great opportunity in any way you can.

Thank you

Applications should be sent to:

Nick Tarayan Bursary 2009. The Contented Vine, 17 Sussex Street, London SW1V 4RR By email to Kate@contentedvine.com

Web site: www.nicktarayan.com