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GIFT GIVERS GUIDE FOR COLLEGE GRADS

Pair the Gift of Good Taste with Wines to Impress

CHICAGO (May 19, 2015) – As the class of 2015 leaves college campuses, ramps up resumes and reevaluates wardrobes, Vin Chicago is offering eight wines that are perfect for college graduation gifts.

“We have a robust selection of fantastic quality wines that includes some better quality reds and whites on a modest budget that are delicious, priced from \$10-\$20, to help commemorate college graduation,” says Vin Chicago owner Peter Schwarzbach. “For about \$100, you can start graduates on a higher education in wines and food pairings, something they will appreciate their entire lives.”

Schwarzbach said staff at any Vin Chicago store, located in Barrington, Chicago, Highland Park or Naperville, can help create an individualized assortment based on each graduate’s preferences.

Schwarzbach and staff favorites include:

Sparkling:

- **Domaine du Vieil Orme "Gabriel" Cremant de Loire** - Cremant is the name for a sparkling wine made in France using the Champagne method, but produced outside of the Champagne region. Made by a small family producer in France's Loire region, this bubbly offers 75 percent of the goodness of Champagne for 25 percent of the price! \$13.99.
- **Henri Billiot Fils "Reserve" Brut Grand Cru Brut Champagne** - Graduation is the time for celebration. What better way to celebrate than with a limited-production Grand Cru bottling from one of Champagne's small, independent grower-producers. For just a few bucks more than the ever-present Veuve-Clicquot, you can expose a recent grad to an amazing hand-crafted bottle of Champagne. At \$48, it's not cheap, but for a Grand Cru Champagne of this quality, it's a steal.

Whites:

- **Tariquet "Classic" Gascogne Blanc 2014** - A crisp, clean, all-purpose summer white for under eight dollars a bottle. Totally delicious and priced within the budget of a recent grad. Good French wine, the recent grad will soon learn, doesn't need to be expensive. \$7.79
- **Ferrari-Carano Sonoma County Fumé Blanc 2013** - This 90-point rated Sauvignon is one of Schwarzbach's favorites. It comes from a big-name producer and it looks - and more importantly drinks - like a much more expensive wine. At \$10.99, it's one of the biggest white wine steals coming out of California.
- **Sean Minor "Four Bears" Central Coast Chardonnay 2013** - Chardonnay is America's favorite white varietal. This Sean Minor bottling is hard to beat as far as bang-for-buck. A little oak flavor and just a hint of butter. Way more quality but just a dollar or two more than your basic convenience store brand. \$10.49.

Reds:

- **Celler de Capcanes "Mas Donis Barrica" Montsant Grenache/Syrah 2013** - Spain is home to some incredible red wine values. This blend from the Monstant region is intense, juicy, soft and oh-so-much-fun. At under twelve bucks a bottle, this blows away your run-of-the-mill red. \$11.79.
- **Field Recordings "Fiction - Seventh Edition" Paso Robles Red 2013** - Zinfandel-based blends are all the rage. This small-production bottling from Andrew Jones is wonderful by itself or with a wide range of food. \$16.79
- **Conn Creek "Herrick Red" Napa Valley Red 2012** - Quality Napa Cabs typically sell for around \$30 to \$100 per bottle. This bottling from Conn Creek is a great alternative for a fraction of the price. A blend of Cabernet and several other grapes, this dense, dark and powerful Napa red is a phenomenal value. \$16.99

About Vin Chicago

Vin Chicago has been serving Chicagoans since 1986, as a family-run operation committed to offering robust selections of good quality wines at the lowest prices with approachable, knowledgeable staff. Vin Chicago has grown to four locations; Chicago, Highland Park, Barrington and Naperville and offers the best of both worlds – the quality and service of a wine boutique with prices that are lower than the big-box stores. For more information, visit www.vinchicago.com or follow us on Facebook.

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