6th Annual
Silicon Valley Concierge Association
Hospitality Awards
Tuesday, May 21, 2013
6:00PM – 9:00PM

6:00PM - 7:15PM – Appetizers, Wine, and Raffle / Silent Auction Items Viewing
7:30PM - 9:00PM – Raffle / Silent Auction and Awards

Winchester Mystery House
525 S. Winchester Blvd.
San Jose, CA 95128

https://svca2013hospitalityawards.eventbrite.com
HERE ARE THE NOMINEES FOR THE 11TH ANNUAL SVCA HOSPITALITY AWARDS, ON MAY 21, 2013

Best Conierge:
Jeffery Phillips - Garden Court Hotel, Palo Alto
Michael Mulhern - HOST Program - San Jose Airport
Robert Ragazza - The Sainte Claire Hotel, San Jose
Cara Nonnenberg - Fairmont Heritage Place, San Francisco

Best Venue:
Computer History Museum
California Theatre
Santa Clara Convention Center

Best Hotel:
Garden Court Palo Alto
Marriott Santa Clara
DoubleTree San Jose

Best Kept Secret:
Blush Raw Bar & Lounge - San Pedro Square Market
Historical Museum at Kelly Park
Club Sportiva

Best Transportation:
LoneStar Limousine
Sal's Airport and Limo Services
Corinthian Transportation

Best Museum:
Intel Museum
San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA)
MACLA

Best Lounge / Bar / Nightlife:
Poor House Bistro - San Jose
Blush Raw Bar & Lounge - San Pedro Square Market
Scratch - Mountain View

Best Casual Restaurant:
Kyoto Palace - Campbell
Capers - Campbell
Habana Cuba - San Jose

Best Upscale Restaurant:
Birks - Santa Clara
Dio Deka - Los Gatos
Morton's Steakhouse - San Jose

Best Winery:
Regale Winery – Santa Cruz Mountains
Cinnabar - Saratoga
Clos LaChance - Santa Cruz Mountains

Best Catering:
PSRT (Parsley, Sage, Rosemary & Thyme) - San Jose
A Catered Affair - San Jose
Restaurant O – Santa Clara

Our Sponsors 2013
FOR HOSPITALITY AWARDS EVENT
Concierge Service is good for your health:

“...researchers have been studying...”

...even meditating about being kind causes us to release stress-reducing hormones, boosts our immune system and has a positive impact on areas of the brain tied to emotional processing.”

Exquisitely beautiful and ever-changing, the gardens of Filoli offer visitors the chance to learn about the estate’s renowned horticulture practices or to simply enjoy the serenity for which they were designed.

View of the Sunken Garden and the clock tower.

Explore the history of Filoli’s world-renowned gardens and enjoy a walk through the gardens from your computer. Dig more deeply and you’ll find details on our plant collections and an ever-expanding knowledge-base in our Garden Resource Center.

Visitor Services
Phone (650) 364-8300, ext. 507
Fax (650) 367-0724 - visitorservices@filoli.org

SAN JOSE MUSEUM OF ART

NEW WORK BY WORLD-RENNOWNED PHOTOGRAPHER ANNIE LEIBOVITZ TO BE FEATURED AT SJMA THIS SUMMER

Annie Leibovitz, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada, 2009.
©Annie Leibovitz, From “Pilgrimage” (Random House, 2011)

SVCA Membership payments NOW available through PayPal on our web-site:

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IT’S GOT HEART, PASSION AND THE BEST ELTON JOHN SCENE EVER.”

MAY 7 - 12, 2013
SAN JOSE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

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San Jose SHARKS

SHARKS have sold out every game at HP Pavilion since Dec. 3, 2009

The SHARKS Ice at San Jose facility is the largest west of the Mississippi River.

SHARKS Ice has the nation’s largest adult league program with nearly 5,000 players.

San Jose Jr. SHARKS youth program is one of the country’s 10 largest.

2,200 players are competing in the USA Hockey Girls’ and Women’s National Championships.

Minor leagues San Francisco Bulls began play this season at the Cow Palace.

SHARKS Ice is second only to San Jose Convention Center for booking hotel nights.

San Jose was voted by Bleacher Report a 10th best hockey city.

GO SHARKS!

CHECK OUT YOUR SAN JOSE

GIANTS

2013 All-Star Game

June 18, 2013

Municipal Stadium

All-Star Game Tickets On Sale Now

FIREWORKS AFTER ALL STAR GAME
Dear Hospitality Industry Partner:

The Silicon Valley Concierge Association is pleased to announce our celebration at our 11th Annual Hospitality Awards Event to be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 at the Winchester Mystery House.

The awards event offers a special opportunity for your company to sponsor the event or donate goods for door prizes. Sponsors and Donors will receive recognition at the Hospitality Awards Event and will be acknowledged in the event program as well as the Silicon Valley Concierge Association’s (VAM) “Valley Access Electronic Magazine”.

You may contact us via e-mail at svconcierge@mindspring.com to arrange for items to be picked up. Or send “envelopes” to Silicon Valley Concierge Association
P.O. Box 2545
Saratoga, CA 95070-0545

To ensure timely acknowledgement in our events program and magazine we respectfully request that all sponsorships and donations are received by May 17, 2013.

Since 1995 the Silicon Valley Concierge Association has been recognized as the leading professional non-profit organization dedicated to the education and advancement of its members. The SVCA assists over 1,600 members in enhancing their professional skills through seminars, networking and familiarization events, meetings, newsletters, and training programs.

We believe that networking, training and education are beneficial to all of us. The art of creating and maintaining positive relationships is a significant factor in the success of the SVCA and its hospitality partners.

We thank you in advance for your consideration in supporting the Silicon Valley Concierge Association and look forward to seeing you at the awards event!

Sincerely,

Mori Mandis
SVCA President

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Discover Arts & Entertainment in Silicon Valley @ LIVE SV

May is the month where flowers bloom and so do fun festivals and events! We have three great ideas of things to try listed below and many, many more at LiveSV.com! Enjoy this beautiful season!

The Maker Faire is the world's largest DIY (Do It Yourself) Festival. It’s a two-day, family-friendly event to make, create, learn, invent, craft, recycle, think, play, and be inspired by celebrating arts, crafts, engineering, food, music, science, and technology. Creations from previous years included robots, costumes, and cupcake-shaped electric cars! May 18th & 19th at the San Mateo County Event Center in San Mateo.
For more information, call 707-827-7074 or visit http://www.livesv.com/event/detail/441735578.

Attention foodies! The best 35 food trucks from all over the Bay Area will be serving up their own rendition of a taco at the San Jose Taco Festival of Innovation! Short rib tacos, nacho tacos, and even ice cream tacos will flavor up the menu while live music fills the air. May 25th at History Park in San Jose. For more information, call 408-800-6825 or visit http://www.livesv.com/event/detail/441741946.

No need to drive to San Francisco! Join the crowd and cheer on the San Jose Giants at the historic Municipal Stadium in San Jose, their home for 70 years. The SJ Giants won back-to-back league championships in 2009 and 2010. Come see what all of the excitement is about! May 27th-29th at the San Jose Municipal Stadium in San Jose. For more information, call 408-297-1435 or visit http://www.livesv.com/event/detail/441743646.

Submitted by, Kereli Sengstack (kereli@artscouncil.org)
**INSIDER’S TRACK**

The title of this column, “Insiders’ Track” is primarily meant for SVCA members and those who are interested in what the Hospitality Industry contributes to the economic well-being and reputation of Silicon Valley.

This and upcoming columns are meant to draw the readers’ attention to academic institutions that have, as part of their curriculum, degree programs that focus on career opportunities in the hospitality industry. Institutions or in-house programs related to the hospitality industry may also be covered. In all of this we should not forget that concierges (in Hotels, Corporations or large Residential complexes) and meeting planners, and tour guides, are the Bay Area’s and Silicon Valley’s knowledge base, “cheerleaders” and service providers for things to do and places to go.

This column is devoted to Mission College in Santa Clara, CA, an academic institution that has, for over 37 years, had a Hospitality Management program that focuses on providing its students in that field with marketable skills or with a basis for broadening their education in related fields upon graduation.

Details about the program can be accessed on the web at: www.missioncollege.org/depts/food/default.html

The Board members of SVCA had the opportunity to get a closer look at the culinary part of Mission College’s Hospitality Management program. They met for lunch at the “Mission Bistro”. As you would guess, the lunch is planned by the Bistro’s Student Manager and executed by Student Chefs under the watchful eyes of Haze Dennis, Department Chair, Sandy Rice, Program Specialist, and Lurraine Reese, faculty member who sat with the SVCA members to explain the program and answer questions. The choices on the menu on that – and it varies during the week – ranged from Fish and Chips with Coleslaw, to Chicken Fajitas, and Meatloaf with Mashed Potatoes, followed by Chocolate Raspberry “Surprise” and Carrot Cake with a special topping.

The atmosphere was thoroughly professional as the students are dressed like any waiters in a well-run, middle to upscale restaurant. During our conversations with our hosts, we learned about the various career opportunities for students such as (and I am excerpting): Chef; Convention Planning; Cruise Lines; Meeting Planning; Restaurant Manager; Front Desk Supervisor etc.

Equally important is that a significant number of the program’s graduates seek to continue their education before finally entering the workforce. Education institutions that offer such opportunities are – to name a few: San Jose State University; the Collins School of Hospitality Management at Cal Poly Pomona; UNLV; or the Culinary Institute of America.

The Board Members of SVCA had a wonderful experience watching first hand, the up- and coming crop of Hospitality Management graduates in action and learning about the extensive curriculum Mission College has in place to meet the demands of the students.

The Faculty and Supervisors are experienced and we parted assured that the Hospitality Management School at Mission College is in good hands. The picture below shows Department Chair Haze Dennis and a student in action.

Gus Holweger, Board Member, VAM Contributor gusholweger@comcast.net

“Junmai”, “Junmai Ginjo”, “Dai Ginjo” No, not titles for the next cool series of “Django” movies. Those who have attended past Sake San Jose events know these terms actually refer to the varieties of “sake”, a ‘rice wine’ - a type of Japanese alcoholic beverage. While wine is based from grapes, beer from barley and grains, “sake” is derived from rice and water. Each beverage has its own processing method and produces a different ‘flavor’ or taste experience.

An entertaining way to explore the nuance and Specialties of “sake” is to join us for the 8th Annual Sake San Jose event, Thursday, May 23, 2013 from 5:00 pm - 8:30 pm in San Jose’s historic Japantown. The concept is similar to a wine tasting, but with its own charming twist. The Sake San Jose event allows participants to experience this Japanese beverage while strolling through one of three remaining Japantowns in the United States. Visit each merchant to see what this community offers.

“Irasshaimase” - Welcome

The evening begins with an Opening Ceremony feature a lively performance by the San Jose Taiko group followed by a ceremonial cask breaking (Kagami-wari) and a toast of Kampai! More than 20 merchants and restaurants will host a pouring station, where volunteers will offer samples of sake made both in Japan and domestically.

2013 is the Year of the Snake. State of Grace’s renowned tattoo artist, Horitaka has once again graciously contributed his talents for this design. This unique design can only be found on 2013 Sake San Jose merchandise which will be available for purchase online and on the day of the event.

**For more information about Yu-Ai Kai, to volunteer or donate, please visit www.yuaikai.org.**
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DEADLINE TO SUMBIT ARTICLES FOR E-MAGAZINE, IS THE LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH: ARTICLES AND SPECIAL DATES APPEARING IN THE VAM ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

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