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**North Carolina Fine
Wines Society**

Press Release

First Recipient of NC Fine Wines Society Scholarship Announced

Scholarship fund supports NC students pursuing wine related degrees at NC Colleges

Winston-Salem, NC, July 25, 2017: The North Carolina Fine Wines Society was pleased to congratulate Willie Fitzgerald Leak, Jr., from Kernersville, NC as the first recipient of the NC Fine Wines Scholarship. The award was announced at the Winston-Salem Foundation's 2017 Scholarship Celebration breakfast at Bridger Field House at Wake Forest University's BB&T Field. Mr. Leak will be attending NC Central University this year pursuing a degree in Hospitality and Tourism.

The NC Fine Wines Society was formed in 2016 as a nonprofit organization with the goals to promote the quality of North Carolina Fine Wines and to create a scholarship fund for NC students pursuing wine related careers at NC colleges and universities. In 2017 the nonprofit conducted their first competition, and now have seen their first scholarship awarded. The NC Fine Wines Society selected the Winston-Salem Foundation to manage the fund and selection of scholarship winners because of their almost 100 years of history creating successful endowments. The NC Fine Wines Scholarship Fund is a 501(c)(3) fund that accepts both tax-deductible contributions and matching grants by many corporations.

Dan McLaughlin, Secretary and Board Member of the NC Fine Wines Society said that "Working with the agricultural community has been a fantastic opportunity. They want to see local products do well, and that includes both their wines and the foods that are served with them. Vineyard owners also want to make sure that there is a talented group of people who will be able to contribute to the industry's fantastic growth. And that's why a scholarship was a primary goal from day one."

If you would like to contribute to the NC Fine Wines Society's Scholarship Fund, you can visit NCFineWines.com and there is a link to the Winston-Salem Foundation. The NC Fine Wines 2018 Awards Gala will be held at the Millennium Center in Winston-Salem on February 17, 2018.

For more information on event tickets and scholarships, please visit www.NCFineWines.com or email Info@NCFineWines.com.

For Release July 28, 2017 6:00 AM