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'Rising Stars' on Napa/Sonoma Dining Scene Honored

Posted in: [Wine Buzz](#)
By Robert Johnson, Editor
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New York City's [StarChefs.com](#), the award-winning online culinary magazine, is including Napa/Sonoma on its four-city U.S. tour in 2009 with a series of June events to engage both the public and the culinary community.

On Wednesday, June 17, [StarChefs.com](#) will present its Rising Stars Revue at Napa Valley's Charles Krug Winery, a walk-around tasting gala for the public featuring the Napa/Sonoma "Rising Stars" and their signature dishes, cocktails and wine pairings.

Rising Stars is a national award that recognizes up-and-coming chefs, pastry chefs, sommeliers and mixologists from around the country. Rising Star candidates are nominated for consideration by the [StarChefs.com](#) Advisory Board, previous Rising Stars Award winners, local food media, StarChefs' editorial research and through the starchefs.com Web site. Winners are chosen by the [StarChefs.com](#) editorial team via in-person tastings and interviews.

StarChefs visited more than 50 restaurants in the Napa/Sonoma area to determine those that represent the frontrunners in the region's dining scene.

The StarChefs 2009 Napa/Sonoma Rising Stars Award winners include:

- * Chef Jeremy Fox of Ubuntu
- * Chef Eric Korsh and Chef Ginevra Iverson of Restaurant Eloise
- * Chef Christopher Kostow of Meadowood
- * Chef Nick Ritchie of Bottega
- * Chef Matt Spector of JoLe
- * Chef Philip Tessier of Bouchon
- * Hotel Chef Jesse Mallgren of Madrona Manor
- * Pastry Chef Deanie Hickox-Fox of Ubuntu
- * Sommelier Yoon Ha of La Toque
- * Sommelier Geoff Kruth of The Farmhouse Inn

Tickets to the Rising Stars Revue are \$75 per person and are available at [starchefs.com/risingstars](#) or by calling 212-966-7575. VIP tickets are \$125 and include a private, pre-event reception hosted by [Meadowood](#) with vintage [Nicolas Feuillatte Palmes d'or Champagne](#) and [Petrossian caviar](#), plus early entry to the gala.

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the [V Foundation](#), a leading supporter of cancer research.

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Are you interested in organic, biodynamic, or sustainably farmed wines?

- Yes! I drink them frequently or prefer them
- I've tried them, but have found the quality lacking
- I cannot get them (or have very poor selection) where I live
- Wait, bio-what?

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