HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS SEND US YOUR COLLEGE ESSAYS!



"Through alienation, I learned independence. Through hate, I learned love. Love for my culture. Love for how I grew up. Love for who I am."

> **EXCERPT FROM** HARKOMAL K. NIJJER

2018 SN&R COLLEGE ESSAY FIRST PLACE WINNER

COLLEGE ESSAY CONTEST ISSUE ON STANDS MAY 30:

THE PRIZES: First place will receive a \$2,000 award, second place \$1,000; and third

THE RULES: High-school seniors graduating in 2019 are eligible. Only one entry allowed per student, and you must live in the Sacramento region to apply. No SN&R employees or their relatives may enter.

THE DETAILS: The details: Essays must be no longer than 650 words. Send your essay as a Word document, a PDF or place it in the body of your email to: collegeessay@ newsreview.com, with the subject line "College Essay Contest." Deadline is Tuesday, May 7, at 5 p.m.

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The GRAPES

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Beer, beer, beer ... What about the Sacramento region's best wine varietals?

BY CHRIS MACIAS

e get it. Sacramento's a craft beer town, with a long history of sud-making and a new wave of local brewers quenching

But Sac's also a land of wine. The raw materials are in our backyard. Unlike beer producers, who depend on the Pacific Northwest for hops, local winemakers are surrounded by grapes.

It's been this way for generations. Frasinetti's Winery in South Sacramento has produced wine since the late 1800s. Around then, the former Natoma Vineyard near Rancho Cordova boasted more than 1,600 acres of wine grapes. It also had a winery with a capacity of 300,000 gallons, according to the 2005 book A History of Wine in America.

Vineyards still define much of the area's agricultural landscape. According to Sacramento County's most recent Crop & Livestock Report, wine grapes are our top commodity. With a value of more than \$170 million, wine grapes outperformed farm-to-fork staples such as pears, corn and cattle.

Wine sipping also remains a staple of the Sacramento region's lifestyle. Oenophiles head to the likes of Allora in East Sacramento or Ella Dining Room & Bar downtown. Midtown denizens can be found chilling with a glass at Revolution Winery & Kitchen (S Street) or 58 Degrees & Holding Co. (18th Street). Wine tasting in Napa, Sonoma, Lodi and the Sierra foothills are short day trips away.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HAARMEYER WINE CELLARS

Which wines truly speak to Sacramento? It's too hot in the Valley to grow much in the way of pinot noir, cabernet sauvignon and other consumer favorites. But, you'll find sweet spots around the region for certain grapes that thrive with flavor and complexity as they're turned into

PÉTILLANT NATUREL

Here are three key varietals that define the region's wine: