

# News Release

South Seattle Community College • 6000 16th Avenue, SW, Seattle, WA 98106-1499

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## South Seattle Community College Hosts Sommelier Program

If you are looking to develop a basic understanding of food and wine pairing or to become an accredited sommelier, South Seattle Community College (SSCC) is the place to be.

Beginning in January SSCC will host wine certification programs offered by the International Sommelier Guild (ISG). Wine Fundamentals Certificate Level 1 and Wine Fundamentals Certificate Level 2 will be the first to be offered. A Sommelier Diploma Program will be added in spring. ISG has certified sommeliers for over 15 years and works closely with the hospitality and culinary industries to train professionals in wine and spirits.

Wine Fundamentals Certificate Level 1 is an introductory course designed for the novice who is either pursuing a career in the hospitality industry or enhancing their enjoyment of wine. Elements covered in the course include: basic sensory evaluation; components of wine appearance, aroma and flavor; wine terminology; and basic understanding of grape types and their discerning characteristics. Upon completion of the program, students should have expanded appreciation for all types of wine and feel confident when selecting and buying wine.

Wine Fundamentals Certificate Level 2 will expose students to many elements of the wine industry, including viticulture, vinification and regional laws. Students will also develop blind tasting skills, as well as build on service skills, food and wine pairing techniques and proper storage practices. The goal of the course is to prepare students for the Sommelier Diploma Program.

The Sommelier Diploma Program, which will be offered beginning in May 2003, is an intensive course. The program offers in-depth instruction of all the world's wine regions and their components. As a part of the program, ISG offers members a referral program for career opportunities.

To learn more about wine programs at SSCC go to [www.chefschool.com](http://www.chefschool.com) and for more information about ISG go to [www.internationalsommelier.com](http://www.internationalsommelier.com). Registration and payment of fees are through ISG. The cost of courses includes all materials and certification testing.

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